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THURSDAY, MARCH 10TH, 2011

SOCIAL COMMITTEE TREASURER'S SOS:

'Do you know of venue where we can meet up and have a hot meal?'

THE treasurer of a social committee which represents 37 people who meet each day at Rondel House is appealing for help to find a venue where they can meet in the future.

Mrs Joan Jones said the social provision at Rondel House had been

'a lifeline' for many people over the years including her husband Mac, aged 81.

"For the 37 people or so, it has been a place where they could have a hot meal every day, and sit and play cards or bingo.

"For most of us, it is the only contact we have with other people because many of us have not got any family left."

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

Mrs Jones has been involved with Rondel House for 32 years. The resource centre is situated near the town centre in Maes-y-Cwm Street.

During her 32-year association with Rondel House, Mrs Jones has been a volunteer and served on the social committee raising funds which allowed members to enjoy Christmas parties, day trips, meals out, and provided a television room and library.

"My members and I range from our seventies to nineties and I would say most of us have some disability or other - most

members have to have transport back and forth to Rondel House. It has been a lifeline, not only to me and my husband, but to all the members that have come and gone in more than 30 years."

Mrs Jones and the group were told by the manager that they would no longer be able to attend in the future, and she thinks the service will end for them once alterations have taken place and people start to attend from Gardenhurst in Penarth.

Mrs Jones understands that "the ones taking over are very ill" as Rondel

and Gardenhurst become a merged single day service resource.

She understands that cuts have to be made, but added: "We are looking for a place where we can meet and have a hot meal, but where can we go?"

"It would have been nice if someone from the council had officially come down to explain why we had to go."

Phil Evans, the director of social services at the Vale Council, said: "In response to changes in people's ideas about the best way in which social services can support them to remain independent and lead fulfilled lives, the council is looking again at day care provision.

"We are consulting about plans for change, and this includes meetings with people who use the current day services.

"The issues raised by Mrs Jones will be taken into consideration before final plans are made.

"This will include helping some groups to make alternative arrangements for meetings, while social services concentrate on providing more specialised day services for the most vulnerable people in the community," he added.

Collision at Rhoose

TWO cars were involved in a collision near Rhoose Point on Monday, March 7, at just after 8am.

The woman driver of one of the vehicles was taken to the University Hospital of Wales as a precautionary measure.

A police spokesman said: "We are investigating the incident."

BARRY MAN JAILED OVER SEX ABUSE

Report by AJ SICLUNA

A CHILD must have been "in turmoil" when she was sexually abused over a period of 18 months, said a judge at Cardiff Crown Court.

The man responsible, James McKernan (26) of Barry, who had no previous convictions, was jailed for three years.

He was found guilty of three offences of sexual assault.

Prosecutor Hywel Hughes said McKernan committed the offences in the area.

McKernan said that nothing of an inappropriate nature had ever occurred.

Judge Helen Mifflin said that McKernan knew the victim had been previously abused. She said that the

course of conduct occurred from November 2008 until July 2010.

She said that he had subjected her to "unforgivable behaviour".

It was, she said, persistent abuse.

"This child must have been in turmoil and your actions made her feel sad. She is now withdrawn, and suffers nightmares.

"You maintained she was lying. You have shown no remorse or motivation to change."

It was possible, she said, there would be long-term damage.

She said that the inevitable sentence would be his first taste of custody.

McKernan was ordered on release to register as a sex offender for life.



ABOVE: Rhws Primary School got all excited on St David's Day!
SEE MORE PICTURES ON PAGE 4.

SOCA plan demo at Civic Offices

THE Save Our Cinema Association is holding a demonstration outside the Civic Offices in Holton Road Barry on March 18.

The group is opposed to the Theatre Royal being used as an Extra-Care facility for the elderly, and claims the facility would be better located at the Waterfront.

Chairman Bob Armstrong explained: "We believe up to 150 people will make their views known in a peaceful protest against the demolition of the Theatre Royal.

"We plan to meet up at 3.30pm - it is an opportunity for people to show support for the cinema because we believe it might be considered by planning on March 31."



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TARMAC ON THE LOCAL MEADOW

HOW sad to see the natural beauty of the meadow near Llantwit Major beach utterly spoiled, with a tarmac path up the middle.

For years, people have walked happily on the grass track, feeling at one with nature. Rabbits, birds, trees and dragonflies all contributing to the general peace.

If the idea is to enable motor bikers to tear up and down, this will be helpful!

If the reason is to make a safe path for prams and small children, the dangerous bendy road has to be negotiated before reaching that area.

Would it have been better to have had first-hand knowledge of the conditions? This cannot be achieved on a drawing board.

**P Challenger,
Llantwit Major.**

Volunteers sought for Armed Forces Day

ON behalf of the Armed Forces Day (AFD) committee, I would like to thank all who attended the 2010 event in Cardiff Bay and for making it a day to remember.

Once again, we were blessed with fine weather, which resulted in an increased attendance – not only from the AFC community – but also from the general public.

Although planning is in its early stages, it is the intention of the Armed Forces Day committee that the main event, on Saturday, June 25, will be centred on Bute Park Coopers Field, Cardiff city centre and Cardiff Castle.

There will, of course, be a number of other events in the preceding week that will be held in the castle, City Hall and Cottrell Park Golf Club.

The programme of

events in broad outline, subject to confirmation or change, is as follows:

June 20 – Flag raising ceremony, Cardiff Castle, veterans and standards in attendance.

June 22 – Armed Forces Day golf match. Details and application forms are on the website.

June 24 – Beat Retreat Cardiff Castle (details on website).

June 25 – Public parade through Cardiff city centre; short drum-head service; possible medals/veterans' badges presentations, entertainments and military capability demonstrations.

Volunteers are being sought to take part in the event.

Full details on www.armedforcesday-wales.co.uk

Dave Morris
(Telephone 01446 772043, email davecmorris@tiscali.co.uk/dave@armedforcesday-wales.co.uk)

Dangerous pot holes

SPRING is nearly here and yet the amount of pot holes on our roads has hardly decreased; they are an eyesore and also extremely dangerous.

How long do we have to wait until the Vale Council decides to fill these in?

R Evans, Penarth

The lights stay on!

WITH reference to G Thomas's letter about turning off lights to save money, my whole street has lights on from 4.30pm till about 8am, winter and summer.

It doesn't get dark until about 9.30pm and light about 5am in summer, what a waste of fossil fuel.

I've approached the council about it a few times, but it seems to fall on deaf ears. The council's supposed to be "strapped for cash"? Yeh, right!

Alex Campbell, Barry

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'Wrong to give prisoners right to vote' – says Vale MP

LAST week (in The GEM) Mr Christopher Short questioned my vote in parliament to block prisoners from voting and the European Convention on Human Rights.

To allow convicted murderers, sex offenders and other prisoners the right to vote is simply wrong. When such offenders committed their crime I believe that they gave up their right, while in prison, to vote.

This is a matter I have raised with the Secretary of State for Justice on several occasions

before the debate. The background stems from prisoner John Hirst, who was convicted of manslaughter.

The prisoner had killed his landlady with an axe, but pleaded guilty to manslaughter by diminished responsibility, instead of murder.

In 2001, he took his case on voting rights to the High Court, failed but then managed to win in the European Court of Human Rights in 2006. It's their judgment that is forcing the UK government to act.

The vote in parliament will have strengthened the government's hand in their negotiations with the EU court. This is also

the court that wants to give sex offenders the right to appeal against having their names recorded on the sex offenders' register.

It seems to me that the ECHR is developing to be a charter for offenders, rather than the victims.

The Prime Minister has therefore announced a commission to consider human rights.

This will give us an opportunity to champion human rights here in the UK in the interest of all, including victims, that will be judged by British courts, according to our policies, priorities and culture.

Alun Cairns, MP for the Vale of Glamorgan

'No confusion over recycling'

REGARDING the article by Coun Richard Bertin in The GEM dated on March 3, I don't believe Vale residents should have been left confused by the introduction of the waste recycling, as we have had letters stating what is being collected on which week until May.

I'm not sure if we'll get new letters then or if we will have to work it out for ourselves.

It is quite simple though – the food waste gets picked up each week and the bins each fortnight, and we have all been informed which

day our bins are being collected.

During the snow people only needed to check on the council website to see whether there were normal collections or not.

There has been no need for bins to be left out for long periods of time.

The problem, I believe, is that not enough people are recycling, so that now there are a double lot of bags going out fortnightly which could amount to as much as eight bags or more at a time.

I only have one rubbish bag a week as I recycle everything else. **Julie Gregory, Barry**

'NO WAY TO TREAT LES'

MAY I add my voice to those objecting to the cuts being imposed on council workers in the Vale?

In the Broad Street/High Street area of Barry, we have a marvellous street cleaner called Les. He is brilliant, diligent, dedicated and humble. He is also very good at his job.

Anyone who has seen the area after a Friday or Saturday night, will know what a monumental task he faces, which he tackles with equanimity and efficiency.

If anyone deserves the MBE, he does. Now, his pay is to be cut and his supine trade union has apparently agreed to this.

Gone are the days of the 70s and 80s when unions had muscle and used it (with the exception of the Rail Union).

If anything, for his dedication, he should be receiving a pay increase, not a decrease.

Shame on you Vale Council and the politicians who put the country into this mess.

Christopher Short, Barry

Instead of attacking council...

'Blame morons who deposit litter in the Vale'

IREFER to the article regarding litter in the Vale (The GEM March 3) in which Mr Jones comments on the litter problem – but rather than rail against 'the council', surely his ire would be better directed at the morons who have deposited the litter?

Having recently participated in a litter-pick in and around Ewenny and Comtown, I would suggest that main culprits are those customers of a well-known burger chain and the drinkers of the lager that 'reaches parts that other lagers do not'.

...Or should that be

the 'litter that reaches the parts...?'

Let us also not forget those citizens who find it impossible to access the council amenity sites, but nevertheless manage to drive to a secluded spot, scale hedges, ditches and bramble patches to deposit their household detritus.

Rather than expect someone else to clean up the mess, isn't it about time we all developed a sense of social responsibility and take action ourselves?

You never know, but it might shame the 'litter bugs' into acting more properly.

Helen Baker, Ewenny

'Thank you, cheque mate!'

A SHORT while ago, I went to my bank to pay in a cheque but found on arrival that I had dropped it in the car park.

It was therefore very pleasing to receive a phone call from the bank soon after arriving home to say that someone had kindly paid in the cheque for me and the bank would be sending on the paying-in book.

Could you please publish this letter so that the good Samaritan will know how much I appreciate his/her very kind action.

KE Walls, Llanbethery

WRITE IN!

• WE reserve the right to edit all letters. Please keep them brief and address them to: The Editor, ggem@tindlenews.co.uk
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ALTERNATIVES TO THE CUTS

THE news is full of doom and gloom – whether it's the closure of your local library, talks of pay freezes, or announcements or restructure and redundancies, it's simply impossible to ignore the impact of the cuts on our public services.

Economic experts throughout the world are in agreement that the current Westminster government's approach to the crisis is unnecessarily risky and will damage

Britain. There are clear alternatives, which include raising taxes through a 'Robin Hood tax' (a tax on major financial transactions of financial institutions) and reforming tax havens.

Instead, public services are bearing the brunt whilst bankers continue to cash their fat bonus cheques.

Please, don't feel hopeless, join us on March 26 in London for the 'March for the Alternative', and together we can make a difference.

Andrew Woodman, Barry

Tory candidate supports Brynhill scheme protest

I WAS at the meeting of local residents last Saturday, discussing the potential use of part of the Brynhill Golf Club site for house-building.

I fully support the view of the vast majority of local residents that the council should reject the inclusion of this site and other adjacent sites in the Local Development Plan (LDP) which will be submitted to the Welsh Assembly Government in 2012.

Vale councillors Katherine Kemp and Marguerita Wright were at the meeting and also supported this view.

I agree with the recommendation of Alun Cairns MP, who suggested at the meeting

that residents should keep the lines of communication with the council open and voice their concerns, in particular on the grounds that the road infrastructure cannot cope with further development.

The Conservative team will be distributing templates of standard letters that residents can use to send to Redrow and the council in the very near future.

I would also like to assure local residents that I support the creation of a local action group and will make every effort to help ensure smooth transition of the LDP through the Assembly.

Dr Angela Jones-Evans (Conservative Assembly candidate for the Vale)

Winner's thank you

WE just wanted to write and thank The GEM for the fabulous evening we had at The Sycamore Tree on February 19, as our prize in your Good Food and Leisure Guide competition.

A great atmosphere and really delicious food and very attentive hosts, made our evening a real treat.

We will definitely return again, and would recommend The Sycamore Tree.

Mrs V Woodley, Port Talbot.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL MARCH 17)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
10 Thur	09.12	9.0	21.28	8.8
11 Fri	09.46	8.6	22.02	8.4
12 Sat	10.20	8.1	22.47	7.9
13 Sun	11.21	7.6	23.53	7.5
14 Mon			12.49	7.2
15 Tues	01.36	7.4	14.23	7.6
16 Wed	02.58	8.1	15.39	8.4
17 Thur	04.09	8.7	16.43	8.9

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

MAN (20) POINTED GUN AT BYSTANDER – court is told

WHEN a gun was pointed from a car at a man walking with his girlfriend in Barry, he believed he was about to die, Cardiff Crown Court heard.

Window fitter Lewis Jones (20), was actually wielding an imitation weapon and later said he was involved in making a video, the prosecutor Nuhu Gobir said.

Jones, of Barry, was sentenced to a total of 20 months in a young offender institution.

He pleaded guilty to possessing an imitation firearm with intent to cause fear of violence, possessing cannabis, assault, failing to surrender to bail, and damaging an electronic leg tag.

Mr Gobir said that

about 3.15pm on April 5, Christopher Gannon and his girlfriend were walking down Severn Avenue, Barry, with two others and were about to cross the road when a Ford Fiesta drove slowly past them.

At a distance of about two yards, said Mr Gobir, the passenger window opened and a handgun was pointed by Jones at Mr Gannon.

"Jones laughed, but Mr Gannon was shocked."

He shouted: "What do you think you are doing, pointing a gun at me?"

Mr Gobir added: "He believed the gun was real and he thought he was about to be killed."

Mr Gobir said that two weeks before, Jones had approached Mr Gannon and asked where he could obtain a "good shooter".

by AJ SICLUNA

Jones was later arrested and said it was a BB gun.

He later said it had all been part of a scheme to make a video and he had pointed the gun at Mr Gannon as a joke adding: "I didn't mean it in a nasty way."

Mr Gobir said that on a previous occasion he had assaulted a girlfriend and when later stopped in Thompson Street, Barry, was found in possession of cannabis which he said was for personal use.

The court heard he had breached his bail conditions and removed an electronic tag.

Senior probation officer Colin Nicholas said he had interviewed Jones and insisted he

meant no harm with the gun.

"He loves music, and he is trying hard to be famous. He has studied some courses in music and multimedia. The gun was being used as a prop."

Mr Nicholas said: "There is a strong degree of immaturity and he knows what it involved. He has found being remanded in custody extremely serious, and has cried every night."

His counsel Ian Halliday, said: "He is fearful and shame-faced. The weapon was a toy, and was bought as a video prop for a lawful purpose. It was a spur of

the moment offence which he deeply regrets

"He was not trying to be a 'big man'. Effectively, he is scared stiff and spends much of his time in tears."

Judge Philip Richards told him: "The gun offence caused real fear to your victim. He was confronted with a man pointing at him what he believed was a real gun."

"There was nothing to suggest it was anything other than that. His girlfriend was also extremely frightened."

The judge added: "Very many real gun crimes are committed in these islands by people no older than yourself."



Junior craft winners.

St David's eisteddfod at Holton Primary

ALL pupils and staff at Holton Primary enjoyed a wealth of celebrations during St David's Day celebrations this year.

Parents attending the Infant concerts praised the enthusiasm of the children as they enjoyed a succession of Welsh songs and dances.

Junior children participated in the traditional Holton eisteddfod, where winners of craft, handwriting and recitation competitions were honoured.

The day ended with the 'Charing of the Bard' competition, the winner this year being Alana Stokes.

AG

Scout jumble

THE 1st Dinas Powys Scout Group jumble sale is on Saturday March 19, at 1.30pm in the Scout Hall, Highwalls Road, Dinas Powys. Admission 50p.

Celebrating our 2nd Anniversary – 11th March

STARTERS	
Onion Bhaji	£1.75
Chicken/Lamb Tikka	£2.60
Chingari Jhinga	£3.95
Machi Tikka	£2.30
Samosa	£1.85
Murgh Tikka Chaat	£2.75
Chilli Paneer	£2.30
Chicken Pakora	£2.70
Tandoor Champen	£2.95
Sheek Kebab	£2.40
Salmon Tikka	£3.50
Paneer Tikka	£2.75
Kolkata Wraps	£2.95
Mixed Tandoori	£2.95
Tiffin Platter	£5.50
EXTRAS	
Papadom	£0.50
Homemade Raitha	£0.95
Fresh Mixed Salad	£0.95
Onion Salad	£0.60
Mint Yoghurt	£0.60
Lime Pickle	£0.60
Mango or Coconut Chutney	£0.60
Chilli or Tamarind Dip	£0.50
GRILL	
Chicken/Lamb Tikka	£5.50
Tandoori Murgh	£5.50
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CHEF'S RECOMMENDATIONS	
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Laal Maas	£5.75
Murgh Tikka Makhani	£5.75
Chicken Tikka Masala	£5.50
Chicken/Lamb Korahi	£5.50
Murgh Jalfrezi	£5.50
Murgh Pasanda	£5.75
Achaari Murgh/Gosth	£5.75
Chicken Rezalla	£5.95
CLASSICS	
KORMA	Each of these dishes can be made with:
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BHUNA	Lamb £4.90
ROGON	Prawn £4.90
DO-PIAZA	Chicken Tikka £5.50
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PANIR	Vegetables £3.95
SAAG	Mushrooms or Spinach
BALTI	60p extra
CHANA	
BIRYANI	
Chicken	£5.95
Lamb	£5.95
Chicken Tikka	£6.75
Vegetable	£5.25
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Maharaja	£7.50
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Aloo Choley	£3.95
Paneer Pasanda	£4.50
Sabzi Paneer Jalfrezi	£4.50
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Saag Paneer	£2.10
Saag Aloo	£2.10
Aloo Gobhi	£2.10

Aloo Baingan	£2.10
Khumb Palak	£2.10
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Plain Rice	£1.55
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Murgh Pilao	£2.20
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Mushroom Pulao	£2.20
DRINKS	
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330 ml Cans	£0.75
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Powergranate	£2.50
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CHEF'S FLAVOURS OF THE MONTH – MARCH

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Chicken Kalimirch	£5.95
Succulent chicken tikka pieces cooked in an onion and tomato sauce and finished with black pepper and yoghurt.	
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A hill station lamb curry made using stone ground spices, coconut and fresh green herbs.	
Murgh Kholapuri	£5.95
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St David's Day eisteddfod at Rhws Primary School

RHWS Primary School celebrated St David's Day in style with a range of Welsh activities and competitions that culminated in an eisteddfod.

Children had been entering competitions ranging from art to handwriting, recitation to music, sports to story-writing.

Key stage 1/foundation phase pupils also carried out Welsh activities with their KS2 buddies, including Welsh folk dancing (year-2 and year-6) and making Welsh rarebit (year-1 and year-5).

During the eisteddfod, children demonstrated their activities and found out who had won the competitions. The chairing of the Bard ceremony was also held for the winner of the year-6 story-writing competition; a very prestigious award!

The points were then totalled to discover which house team had won.... da iawn, ty gwyn!

Kelsey Bibey (Rhws Primary School)



Year-1 pupils in costume.



Winner of the bard chairing ceremony



Year-3 pupils in costume



Year-3 pupil in her costume.

CARL SURVIVES AN ENDURANCE TEST

RECENTLY, Sergeant Carl Chaplin from 372 (Barry) Squadron completed the Dodentocht ('Death March') in Belgium.

The Dodentocht is a challenging 100-kilometre hike starting from Bornem, in which participants have only 24 hours to finish.

The gruelling march is worthy of its name, due to its length and the rough and forested terrain. Half of the people who start never make it to the end.

The march started at 9pm with more than 10,000 people from many countries around the world. The Dodentocht has grown over the years and the locals cheered on all the brave participants.

Initially, Carl started off at a brisk pace to build up rest time later on, but generally he ate and drank while on the march.

The route took Carl through the villages of Willebroek, Lenderzeel and Buggenodt, through forests and

along a variety of roads, cobblestone paths and grass footpaths.

After successfully completing the route in under 24 hours, Carl was awarded a certificate confirming his time of 23 hours and 12 minutes, a medal, badge and a pineapple.

Afterwards, Carl said: "The walk was harder than I thought, especially towards the end, when I was running out of time. However, I am chuffed that I completed the 100 kilometres within 24 hours. I'm looking forward to putting my feet up for a well-deserved rest."

Carl is now looking forward to an action-packed and challenging training programme including flying, gliding, shooting, sport, hill craft, Duke of Edinburgh and leadership training in what promises to be another busy and exciting year ahead.

If you have a spirit for



Carl Chaplin with his pineapple and medal!

adventure, 372 Squadron has vacancies for boys and girls between 13 - 18 years old. The Squadron parade on Mondays and Wednesdays, 7pm - 9.30pm behind Adams Funeral Parlour (by the Memorial Hall) or contact the Squadron on 01446 747734 or email oc.372@aircadets.org. JH

Soroptimists give the Rainbow Group ladies a helping hand!



MEMBERS of Soroptimist International Barry and District recently responded to a request from a group of ladies who have formed The Rainbow Group.

These ladies, who have been attending yoga classes at the Pioneer Hall, Barry, are planning to arrange social activities

for women who may have had little in the way of social interaction with people outside their immediate family group.

The Rainbow Group is now at a stage where they need to formalise their structure to enable them to apply for some funding support. They needed a small amount of money to cover start-up costs, such as the hire of the hall prior to the grant being released, stationery, travel costs and publicity.

The offer of £50 from Barry Soroptimists was warmly received and club member Jane Hutt AM handed the cheque over on behalf of the club with fellow members Sue Bowyer and Pam Allinson.

To find out more about the club, visit www.soroptimist-gbi.co.uk/barry-and-district. CD

Mayor-elect is chosen

PENARTH Town Council's mayor-elect Anthony Ernest, has served on the council since 1974, and will take office for a 12-month term from May.

Coun Ernest, who previously served as the town's Mayor in 1980, was born in Penarth to a local family who counted timber importing and coffee and tea wholesale, amongst their several business interests.

He was also chairman of the Vale Council in Millennium Year, 2000, where he has been an elected member since 1979, and is in his third year as chairman of the South Wales Fire Authority.

Stanwell at centre of RE launch

RELIGIOUS education month in the Senedd was launched at Stanwell School, Penarth by Archbishop Barry Morgan.

Also present was Plaid AM Chris Franks, who also talked to children from Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg, Barry. They performed 'reflections on the Holocaust' at the launch.

Other schools from the Vale included Evenlode and Albert Primary. Also present at the religious education event were representatives from the Christian, Jewish, Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, Buddhist and Bahá'í faiths.

Barry potholes get wider and a bit deeper...



IT was the Beatles who said that there were "4,000 holes in Blackburn, Lancashire".

No one knows how many there are in Barry, but the December freeze has certainly created quite a few.

Local photographer Derek Booth snapped these on Saturday, February 26, at the junction of Barry Road and Buttrills Road.

Mr Booth told The GEM: "These potholes have been getting worse for a number of weeks now and, as they are not visibly marked out for repair, the local council may well shortly find themselves in receipt of claims for damage to motor vehicles."

Guides celebrate a £1,869 windfall



THE 10th Barry Guides have been awarded a Co-Operative community grant to purchase much-needed equipment for their unit.

The Guides received £1,869 to purchase storage, craft, kitchen and sporting equipment.

The Co-op supports a wide range of community programmes, and in 2010 awarded £1.2 million to deserving groups across the UK.

BBC APPEARANCE PUTS RECORD STRAIGHT



Vale woman claims iconic 50s title of the 'Blackpool polka dot belle'

LEFT: Pat Stewart with The Picture Post Album and the contact sheet photographs that prove she was the 1951 'Blackpool belle'.

ONE of the strangest examples of 'mistaken identity' has been solved, thanks to a Vale woman who has claimed her rightful title as 'The Blackpool Belle in the Polka Dot Dress' featured in The Picture Post magazine in 1951.

For Pat Stewart, the face of one of the 20th century's most famous photographs, appearing on national TV last Thursday to lay claim to 1950s immortality ended several years in which another woman had said she was the 'Blackpool belle'.

Pat told The GEM she was glad the record had been set straight at last.

Now aged 77, Pat was a John Tiller Girl at the time the photograph was taken.

She explained: "Although it was 60 years ago, I have a clear recollection of having the photograph taken."

"At the time, I was working on Blackpool

North Pier as a dancer, kicking my legs!"

The photograph was taken by Bert Hardy and graced the front page of The Picture Post magazine's 50th anniversary edition.

Bert invited Pat and fellow dancer Wendy Clark to perch on the railings of Blackpool promenade.

Wendy, sporting a white dress, was gazing down at the beach, Pat, in the polka dot dress, was in a more risqué pose, with the wind blowing up the dress to reveal a shapely leg!

Magazine readers loved the photograph for capturing a carefree, golden moment in the sunshine at the British seaside.

Pat believes the year it was taken - 1951 - was critical to its enduring popularity.

"The war had recently finished. We had gone through austere years, and it was a new beginning for the youth of the 1950s. Who knows why it became iconic? - but it did."

Pat's showbiz career developed from being a

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

dancer to being part of a theatrical double act 'Nick and Pat London' with Bernard Bresnick. She even appeared in one show with Laurel and Hardy!

Her association with Wales began when she met and married the Welsh comedian Johnny Stewart in Weymouth in 1956.

Johnny had a long and successful career on TV, in the theatre and on the club circuit. He even appeared on Sunday Night at the Palladium.

More than 10 years ago, Pat disputed the claims of a woman called Norma

Edmondson, now aged 79, who said she thought she had been the 'polka dot' girl in the photograph.

Pat explained: "I was speaking to a newspaper who had run a story on her, and I said I was the Blackpool belle and they said 'prove it' - but it was a difficult time for me because my husband had just died."

Far from being a one-off, Pat listened to Norma making the claim on BBC's *The One Show*, broadcast last November.

Norma said she had been in Blackpool at that time and believed it had been a photograph of her and a friend.

Pat's friend Kay Davies, who lives in Cardiff, was so angry that she raised the issue with the BBC.

The result was that last week Pat appeared in the *The One Show* in a segment filmed at The Lamb and Flag Public House in Wick, when it was made clear she was the Blackpool belle.

Pat was able to prove her claim to fame by producing the 'contact sheets' given to her by Bert Hardy of photos taken on the day.

A spokesman for *The One Show* said Norma had made an honest mistake.

Last Friday, Pat phoned Norma, who lives in Cornwall, and declared: "I am Pat Stewart, the girl in the spotted dress that you have been impersonating all these years!"

However, Norma did not want to talk to her. Pat, who in recent years has lived in Wick, Llantwit and Llanmaes, has strong roots in the Vale and Cardiff.

Peter, her elder son, aged 52, owns post offices in St Athan, and Barry Island, where he lives; her younger son Stephen, aged 51,

played rugby for Cardiff and Pontypridd, and he lives in Cardiff.

She also visits her daughter Rachel (42) an artist, who lives in Holland.

Pat has nine grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and another great-grand child due in April, so Christmas is quite a handful!

Despite her association with the image, Pat never made a penny out of it.

Just one question remains: *What happened to the polka dot dress?*

Pat laughed: "What do you do with old clothes? I threw it out!"



LEFT: The Mayor of Barry, Coun Karl Kuhnell, beside the 'Book of Remembrance' at Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery Chapel. The town council is inviting the community to an open day at the cemetery this Saturday, March 12.

Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery holds an 'open day' for all

BARRY town's cemetery is throwing open its gates this Saturday, March 12, to give people the opportunity to find out more about their heritage, and also so that they can locate family graves.

The event is part of a drive by Barry Town Council to make Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery and the local chapel as accessible as possible to the public.

Last year, The GEM previewed the inaugural cemetery open day, which proved a huge success.

The Mayor of Barry, Coun Karl Kuhnell, said: "Last September was a storming success. There were people queuing

by TIM CHAPMAN

from the gates all the way to the chapel.

"People, not only from Barry, but also from further afield, are welcome to come to the open day this weekend."

"The cemetery records will be available for members of the public and assistance will be provided by council staff, who will also show the public where they can locate family graves."

There will also be genealogists and local historians on hand offering expert help, and Park Funeral Directors and CJ Ball & Co will also be available for advice and information.

A total of seven staff work at the cemetery

which covers almost 53 acres. The first burial on the site was in 1889, but the identity of the person was unknown.

The day will an opportunity for local people to browse round the chapel, which was opened in November 2005 following a £125,000 renovation.

A book of remembrance is housed in the chapel in which people can arrange to have their loved ones honoured on the appropriate day in the year.

Coun Kuhnell pointed out that people involved with local organisations should be aware that the chapel can be used by the community.

The chapel will be open this Saturday from 10am to 3pm, and there will be refreshments

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 2 Pappadoms, Rashmi Chicken, Chicken Chat, Chicken Passanda, Chicken Jalfrezi, Bombay Aloo, Pilau Rice, Garlic Nan Bread.

WE ARE HERE

Ysgol Bro Morgannwg pupils visit the city where the Iron Curtain was brought down

YEAR-12 pupils from Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg, Barry, who are studying German, visited Berlin during half term with Miss James, to practice their linguistic skills and to visit historical landmarks.

RIGHT:
East Side Gallery – an old piece of the Berlin Wall.

BELOW: Outside the Stasi prison.



Vale rural 'bus' link

THE Greenlinks Community Transport Project has been established by the Vale Council to provide community transport for residents of the rural Vale.

The service is based around a 13-seater minibus, a Volkswagen Sharan seven-seat people carrier operated by volunteers.



ABOVE:
Students at the Brandenburg Gate.

Roadworks report

Heol Mynydd, Welsh St Donats – road closure 9.30am-3.30pm.

Colcot Road, between Winston Road and Whitewell Road, Barry – temporary traffic control.

A48 from Culverhouse Cross to Bridgend boundary – temporary traffic control.

A4231 Barry Docks Link Road, Barry – temporary traffic control.

A4055 Cardiff Road, Dinas Powys (near the Murch) – temporary traffic control.

Arcot Street, Penarth – temporary traffic control.

CCTV assists with two arrests

CCTV, working under the umbrella of the Safer Vale Partnership, assisted with two arrests and the location of two missing persons in the week ending March 6.

The police were contacted on 28 occasions, with one arrest made concerning being drunk in charge of a vehicle at Broad Street, Barry. A further arrest involved theft at Holton Road, Barry. In addition, two missing persons were found in Barry.

Pudding tasting, entertainment & comic limericks on St David's day!

RHOOSE WI celebrated St David's day on March 1 at the village hall when the business was kept to a minimum to allow time for the main event, the eisteddfod.

It began with a limerick competition, which everyone entered with enthusiasm. A 'pudding tasting' proved very popular, with members providing and sampling a large number of deli-

cious desserts. Tea and Welsh cakes followed and then the company settled down to a programme of entertainment performed by the members themselves.

Pam Jupp produced a clever parody of Hamlet's speech entitled 'To Buy or Not to Buy'; Barbara Goodway and Joy Grant wrote and spoke about their childhood memories of Rhose; Ray Reynolds spoke about the life of Laura Ashley and also

wrote a lovely evocative poem about walking in Porthkerry Park.

Poems, both funny and moving, were chosen and read by Stella Hughes, Margaret Mortimer, Ann Harris, Shirley Hardwick and Maureen Anderson. Gloria Sparks, Barbara Goodway, Eileen Eeles and Ray Reynolds sang a lively Welsh song, accompanied on the piano by Grace Watkins.

The final item, 'Dr I'm In Trouble' per-

formed by the versatile and talented partnership of Elsa Jones and Jenny Reed, caused great amusement.

Competition winners were announced at the end of the evening. 'The Sunshine Girls' (Jenny Reed, Shirley Hardwick, Maureen Anderson and Glenys Watson) won the limerick competition and the raffle was won by Margaret Lloyd.

At the end of a very enjoyable eisteddfod, the company stood to sing the National Anthem.

At the end of the evening, members were reminded that there will be two meetings in April. The first of these will take place on April 5, when as 2011 hosts of the South Vale link, Rhose will entertain members of the other WIs in the link with a finger buffet.

The speaker will be Mrs Anne Campbell, High Sheriff of Glamorgan. The second meeting will take place on April 7, when Mrs Christine Seaman will talk about her life as a dancer.

Both of these meetings will begin at the Village Hall, Stewart Road, Rhose at 7.30pm. Events in March: The annual lunch on March 4 at the Victoria Inn, Siginstone; skittles at Rhose Social Club on March 18 at 2pm.

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As he listens to songs on MP3... Tobias is pining for green, green grass of home!



ABOVE: The generous firefighters at Barry Fire Station hand over a £700 cheque for Tobias.

PEOPLE in the Vale are always keen to hear the latest news on Tobias Lunnon, the six-year-old youngster, who was paralysed in a car crash last summer.

Tobias remains in Addenbrooke's

Hospital, Cambridge with his mum Fiona at his bedside.

Fiona said Tobias is anxious to return to Wales.

She added: "He is staying on the tilt table for longer now, 20 mins three times a week.

"He listens to his MP3 player to make

the time go faster.

"It has all his favourite songs on it like 'Does your chewing gum lose its flavour', 'Purple people eater', 'Mornintown Ride', 'Blood' by MCR, and 'The Number of the Beast' by Iron Maiden. Quite an eclectic mix!

"He is still doing well at school and whizzing through the work, and staying out in his chair for longer. "Just recently, he went to Build a Bear in Cambridge and had a lovely time building a bear with a giggle in!

"As he was there, he also remembered that it was his sister's birthday soon, so he built her a bear, too, which sang a happy birthday song.

"Then we went shopping - his first shopping trip in six months. He called it 'present pile-up' as he went around the shops with me letting him have whatever he wanted. Well six months with no shopping is a lot to make up!"

And Fiona wanted to say a big thanks to the men at Barry Fire Station:

"They gave me a £700 cheque for Tobias that they had raised during a 5-a-side football tournament.

"It was such a lovely gesture, and they were such kind, genuine people," she added.

Age Concern grant

Age Concern Cardiff and the Vale has been awarded £25,000 in recognition of its "out-standing contribution to improving health and social care among over-60s" in the region.

The charity beat more than 400 organisations from around the UK to become one of ten winners of this year's GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) IMPACT Awards, run in partnership with health think-tank The King's Fund.

Youth PACT pupils' visit

STANWELL Comprehensive School pupils are pictured during a visit to the Safer Vale Partnership offices to learn about funding community projects on a tour of the offices at Barry Fire Station.

Schools Liaison Officer, Police Constable Emma Mudie said: "Youth PACT meetings are held in the school, in an effort to allow young people to 'have their say' on issues which affect them in the community. It allows them the opportunity to influence the allocation of key resources such as police officers, council workers and money in the same way that the general neighbourhood PACT meetings do."



Stanwell Comprehensive School pupils are pictured at the Safer Partnership offices.

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BAYSIDE GARAGE LTD IS IN THE RUNNING FOR TOP UK SERVICE AND REPAIR TITLE

Motor Codes – the government-backed regulatory body for the motor industry – has announced the nation's Top 50 car service and repair centres, after six weeks of voting by motorists across the UK.

Advertisement feature

BAYSIDE GARAGE LTD has been nominated by motorists as one of the UK's top 50 garages for car servicing and repair in the annual Golden Garages competition (www.goldengarages.co.uk).

In a bid to reward good customer service, motorists have voted in droves to dispel the myth that taking your

car for a service can be a nerve-racking affair.

Thousands voted in the contest, organised by the government-backed consumer watchdog for the motor industry, Motor Codes, to highlight the nation's most reliable and professional garages.

The top 50, selected from across 10 UK regions, will now progress to the final voting stage of the competi-

tion to find the UK's best workshop, with the overall winning 'Golden Garage' set to be announced on April 4, 2011.

The shortlist of garages can be found on the Golden Garages website and motorists are invited to vote in the next stage of the competition, to select the 10 best, by casting their vote online.

The national Golden Garages winner will then be chosen by a panel of expert judges, including TV personality Mike Brewer, What Car? editor-in-chief Steve Fowler, Emma Butcher, editor of Car and Accessory Trader and Motor Codes managing director, Chris Mason.

Top 10 voting for Golden Garages opened this week and closes on Sunday, March 13.

As Chris Mason explains, Golden Garages is an initiative designed to celebrate good customer service and instil confidence in the motorist: "We all need to feel secure about who to trust with our car and our money, and at Motor Codes, we're developing a network of 'safe haven' garages

committed to open and honest trading.

"The Golden Garages contest allows us to publicly recognise the commitment of these reputable garages recommended by their customers."

Motorists are able to search for garages that subscribe to Motor Codes via its online Garage Finder tool - www.motorcodes.co.uk/garagefinder - and can make an informed decision on where to take their car, based on the feedback of other garage customers.

Ratings are viewable on garage profile pages and current statistics show that more than 95 per cent of Motor Codes customers would recommend their garage to friends and family.

The competition can be followed online at www.goldengarages.co.uk, as well as on twitter at <http://twitter.com/GoldenGarages>.

Motorists taking part in the voting could win a thrilling Porsche Driving Experience at the world-famous Silverstone race track. The garages compete for a prize fund totalling £12,000.

Food standards website makes sluggish start in the Vale of Glamorgan

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

THE first food hygiene ratings for the Vale are available on the Food Standards Agency website which shows some local outlets and organisations failing to make the grade 3 'generally satisfactory' rating. The rating system

works in the following way: 0 – urgent improvement necessary; 1 – major improvement necessary; 2 – improvement necessary; 3 – generally satisfactory; 4 – good; 5 – very good.

The scores are part of a scheme run by local authorities in Wales,

England and Northern Ireland to give the consumer information about food hygiene standards across their own area.

A spokesman for the Food Standards Agency explained: "Each business is given a 'hygiene rating' when it is inspected by a food safety officer from the business's local authority.

"The hygiene rating shows how closely the business is meeting the requirements of food hygiene law.

"When you eat out or shop for food, you might see a sticker in the window or on the door, or a certificate on display, showing you the hygiene rating for that business.

"Businesses are encouraged to display these stickers and certificates at their premises in a place where you can easily see them when you visit.

"The scheme is new. This means not all businesses in an area running the scheme will have a rating yet."

At the moment, the amount of information

varies from local authority to local authority.

The GEM searched for 'all businesses that handle food in Bridgend county borough' – and a total of 258 establishments were listed.

However, an identical search in the Vale of Glamorgan listed only 26!

One establishment which is listed on the Food Standards Agency website which scored a 1 was Ashgrove School in Penarth.

The GEM approached the Vale Council for a comment, and a spokeswoman said: "We are aware of the report.

"This is a premises issue and there are plans in place to address the report recommendations.

"We intend on requesting a re-inspection following completion of work in the near future."

(The ratings are available at www.food.gov.uk)

Local Lions hold free diabetes screening session

THE Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Lions Club will be holding a free diabetes screening session at the Lesser Hall in Cowbridge on March 19, between 10am and 12.30 pm.

The tests will be carried out by fully qualified nurses and are completely confidential.

Anyone having a positive test result will then be advised to visit their GP for further tests.

On the same date, the

club will also be holding a book sale alongside the diabetes screening sessions in the Lesser Hall, between 10am and 4pm.

To donate good quality books, where 100 per cent of the funds raised will go to help good causes, contact the club on 0845 8336763.

During August, Lions are holding the annual Bob Cooke games in Swindon for people with disabilities.

Transport will be provided for competitors, along with carers.

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We know that the Westminster Government spending cuts will damage public services and will put more than a million people (UK wide) out of work. The cuts will hit the vulnerable, damage communities and undermine much of what holds us together as a society.

In the Vale of Glamorgan, the Council are already currently consulting over the privatisation of leisure services. Not only will this have a devastating impact on those already working in leisure but anyone using their local leisure centre could find it closing or see a substantial increase in cost to use the facilities.

Libraries are another area under threat with the Vale of Glamorgan, Bridgend, and Merthyr Tydfil all looking at axing fixed or mobile libraries.

The Westminster Government claim that 'there is no alternative' and that 'we are all in this together', but we know that is just not the case. We know that it is completely unnecessary for the deficit to be eliminated in four years—if we look at the deficit over the course of the last century, the current deficit is not particularly high. In fact, cutting too

fast and too deep will stifle economic growth and less tax revenue will be available. Furthermore, raising taxes such as VAT impact those on poor and middle incomes far more than those on higher earnings. Yet enormous bonuses are still being paid and those receiving them are not making a fair contribution.

We need to stand together and provide a voice for all those that have suffered unfairly at the hands of this UK government—those public service users that have seen reductions or closures to their public services, and a voice for those public sector workers that have lost their jobs. We need to show that we reject the argument that there is no alternative. Of course the recession has damaged our economy, but savage cuts will only serve to damage it further.

Put 26th March in your diary and ask your colleagues, friends and family to put it in theirs. Transport is being arranged by UNISON in the Vale of Glamorgan – contact us now to book your seat and March for the Alternative.



March for public services 26 March

On 26 March thousands of people from all over the UK will march in London to speak out against the government's savage and unfair spending cuts.

Join us with your colleagues, friends and family in speaking up for vital public services.

Register and find out more at action.unison.org.uk/march
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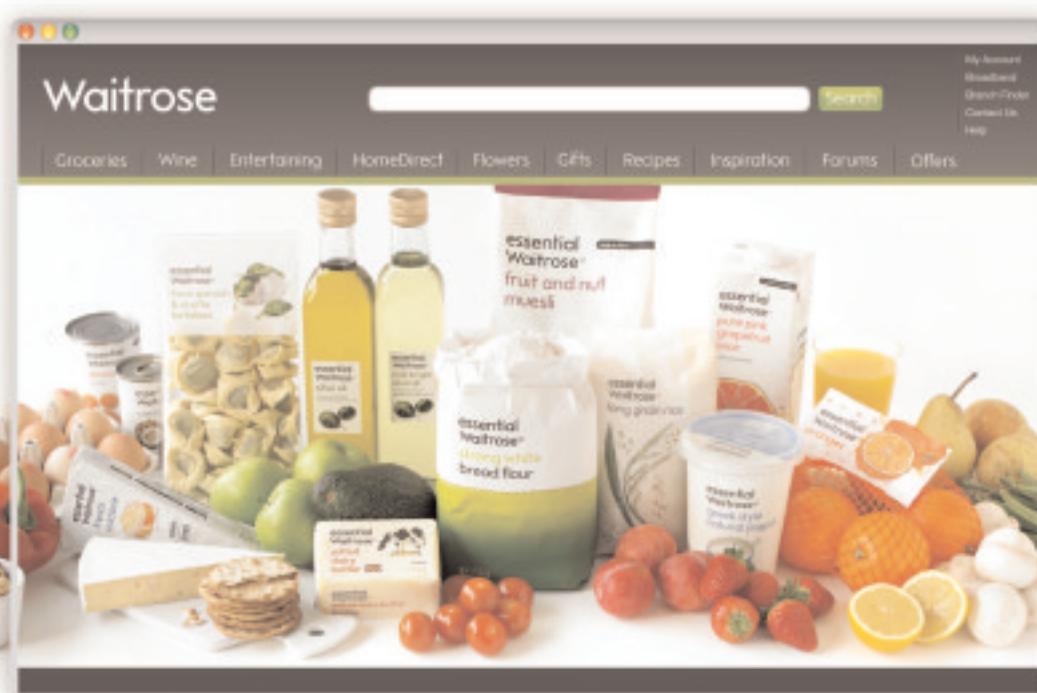
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Mrs Turnbull hits the heights.

School takes reading to extremes!

BARRY Comprehensive School's pupils and staff grabbed their cameras to celebrate this year's World Book Day.

Eager readers were challenged to an 'extreme reading competition' which required a photograph of them reading in an unusual, interesting, funny or extreme place. Congratulations to William Eddy and Mr Prickett for their winning entries.

There were lots of great entries and some of the judges' favourites are pictured here. Thanks to everyone who took part – and remember to keep reading! AC



Ms Page does her reading underwater!



LEFT: Mr Garwood proves You don't have to be sitting down to read a good book!

Glamorgan Law launches in Cowbridge

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

BEECH & CO, commercial property and business law specialists based at Cowbridge, have celebrated their merger with Peter Davies, Solicitors, of Cardiff who merged with James & Bulteel and Anthony Jewell & Co of Pontypridd earlier this year. The firms have now

joined together under the umbrella of a new business venture called Glamorgan Law.

The launch was celebrated at an event attended by south Wales business leaders at The Bear Hotel in Cowbridge on St David's Day.

A keynote address was given by Dyfrig John of HSBC and a response by Peter Davies, managing partner of the newly-merged firm and president of the Cardiff Law Society.

Richard Beech said: "Glamorgan Law represents a great opportunity for us to offer our rapidly-growing client base in south Wales and else-

where a full range of services.

"Each member firm of Glamorgan Law will retain its individual identity and specialist focus but will be able to call on the skills of the other parts of the new business when needed. It's good for us and good for our clients."

"Glamorgan Law will be able to provide services, including commercial property, business advice, house buying and selling, wills, probates and trusts and now professional negligence, employment law, family law and litigation."

Contact www.glam-law.co.uk

News from the Barry Men's Forum TOWN'S CALL TO ARMS IN WORLD WAR TWO

THE sought-after speaker, Dr. Jonathan Hicks, returned to address the Forum last week to highlight the heroism and bravery of several of its citizens during the last world war.

He has an extensive and interesting collection of wartime photographs, both of places and people, and illustrated his talk with some of them.

It turns out that giving talks of this kind, although of great interest to those privileged to hear them, has to be done with some sensitivity, for many relations of those who gave their lives for their country at this time are still with us and grieving to this day.

Dr. Hicks is nothing if not thorough in his research, aided by internet facilities, it can be a disturbing experience, for instance, to see a photograph of the u boat commander who sank the ship on which your father was serving.

Jonathan is aware of the prob-

lems which he handles with great sensitivity, but it was one that had not previously occurred to many members present.

Dr. Hicks' talk ranged over a vast number of wartime subjects of great interest to those living in Barry and the Vale when he mentioned such diverse things as the Spitfire on King Square to raise funds for the building of more fighter planes; to pictures of 'Jive Nights' at the Bindles Social Centre (admission for civilians three shillings and sixpence - forces, two shillings and sixpence) to the large Womans' Land Army food garden in the grounds of Barry Hospital with a mention of the two Onione brothers who had died building the notorious Bridge on the River Kwai.

Several Barry men served at Arnhem and one was lined up after capture to be shot by the SS before a German officer prevented this crime from happening.

The role of honour of those involved is too large to be men-

tioned in its entirety and, in passing, it should be noted that seven names are still to be added to the official memorial at the Memorial Hall in Barry.

Perhaps it would be invidious to pick out even a few of the more outstanding heroes born in this area, but suffice it to say that Barry's sons seem to have been involved in the fiercest actions from the early bombings of Berlin, to flying on the famous Dambusters' raid that did so much to raise morale back home during a dark period. On top of this was the huge part played by so many local Barry sailors who served in the hugely dangerous waters of the Atlantic in the Merchant Navy.

At the next meeting on March 10th, Michael Chubb will speak on 'Island Farm POW Camp.'

Meetings are held at 10.30 am on Thursdays in the hall of the United Reformed Church in Barry. For further details, contact 029 20594881

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Driver is sentenced after crash which killed two friends

TWO teenage boys with glowing futures ahead of them died instantly when a car in which they were passengers crashed into a wall near Southerndown, after the vehicle went out of control as it travelled through a deep pool of water, Cardiff Crown Court has heard.

The driver Nicholas Landon (18) of Bridgend was at the wheel of his Suzuki Swift and had passed his test a month before. He had been travelling between 64.6 mph and 71.4 mph on the narrow, badly lit road before losing control.

Landon was sentenced to 20 months in a young offender institution and disqualified from driving for three years after pleading guilty to causing the deaths of Roy Thomas and Alex Jones by careless driving.

A friend of the group, Jack Germain (19) of Bridgend, who had also been travelling at a high speed along the same road, and who was overtaken by Landon, admitted a charge of careless driving and was fined £500, ordered to pay £100 costs and was disqualified from driving for six months.

Judge Neil Bidder said Landon had taken the lives of his two passengers.

"They were all close friends, only 17, living happy and fruitful lives with great potential futures".

He added: "No sentence I impose will bring them back, nor will any sentence or words remove the pain and suffering of their family and friends."

Both men, he said, had been driving at "grossly excessive speeds".

Landon, he said, must have seen the water but effectively ignored the conditions.

"The deaths of the two have had serious consequences for their families and they have suffered intense grief."

Inexperience, he said, was a contributory factor, and the case represented

Report by AJ SICLUNA

a tragedy for Landon and his family. The surface water, said the judge, should not have been permitted to remain on the road.

Prosecutor David Elias said the incident occurred on November 16, 2009 on the Bridgend to Southerndown road near the Pelican pub.

The road had a 40-mile an hour limit.

Moments before the crash, Landon had overtaken a Ford Fiesta driven by Germain.

"Landon was driving in a careless manner well above the speed limit," he said. Earlier, they had all gathered at Bridgend retail park and decided to go to the coast.

Mr Jones was in the front seat with Mr Thomas in the back. All were wearing seat belts.

Driving conditions, said Mr Elias, were difficult. From CCTV footage it was established that Landon was doing between 64.6 and 71.4 mph passing the Pelican pub.

He went over the brow of a hill and ahead of him was a large puddle of deep standing water.

The car hit the water and went out of control. The rear fishtailed and the nearside crashed into a boundary wall.

Mr Germain's speed near the pub was estimated at between 60.8 and 67.2 mph. When he arrived on the scene, he found the Suzuki on its side with the driver and passengers inside and he did everything possible to assist.

Only the driver, said Mr Elias, demonstrated any vital signs. A doctor arrived and found both passengers dead.

The puddle of water, he said, had been due to a blocked drain cover. There were indications that the crashed car had not braked. The vehicle hit the wall at between 40 and 50 mph.

Mr Elias said that if Landon had been driving within the speed limit he could have stopped when he saw the water and

before colliding with the wall. It was well known, he said, that pools of water built up on that road.

When the police interviewed Landon, he said he had no recollection of the incident but was aware the road was subject to a 40 mph limit.

Germain said he was aware there would have been puddles in the area as he had driven along the road about 100 times.

Daniel Williams, representing Landon, said the case did not involve racing or competitive driving and he accepted that excessive speed was the cause of the accident.

The pub landlord had referred to the stretch of water as a lake, 28.5 metres long, wide and deep.

It posed, said Mr Williams, a substantial unforeseeable risk for drivers and had been there five days.

The landlord himself had sometimes physically unblocked the drain and had not seen local

authority staff do that.

Mr Williams said: "It represented an accident waiting to happen."

Landon would have seen the water when only five metres from it. Landon himself, said Mr Williams, was seriously injured. He was in a coma for five days with collapsed lungs, multiple fractures and a torn bladder.

"He would do everything in his power to turn back the clock. He is deeply sorry he cannot, and for what he has done."

Peter Davies, for Germain, said he immediately contacted the emergency services and tried to seek responses from those in the crashed car.

"He has lived under the cloud of this matter for some time. Luckily, he dealt with the surface water without incident."

"The profound effect of what happened will last a lifetime. It has haunted him."

Landon, the court heard, will have to take a special test of competence to drive.

Currying favour with Eisteddfod!



LEFT: Dr Dylan Jones, chairman of the Eisteddfod's executive committee; Janet Davies, event organiser; Anhar Miah of The Mughal.

LOCAL fundraising for the National Eisteddfod 2012 in the Vale has got under way, with a successful first event for the Welsh St Donats area appeals committee.

Around 100 people met at Cowbridge's Mughal Emperor restaurant last Sunday evening (March 6) to enjoy a curry, raising over £900 in the process.

Event organiser Janet Davies from Prysg said: "Our first fundraising event was a great success and I am very grateful to Anhar Miah and his team at The Mughal for making us so welcome. Thanks also to everyone who attended and who contributed to the convivial atmosphere of the evening."

The next event planned by the committee is a rugby forum at The Bear Hotel on Thursday, May 19. On the question panel will be Scarlets coach and former Irish rugby union international Simon Easterby, who will be joined by other well-known rugby celebrities.

For tickets and more information about the event please contact Sian-Elin Jones on 01446 781129.

Cyrri ar Gyrion y Bont-Faen

MAE'R ymgyrch leol i godi arian tuag at Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Bro Morgannwg 2012 gan bwyllgor apêl Llanddunwyd a'r Cylch wedi cychwyn gyda noson lwyddiannus yn Mwyty'r Mughal ar gyrion y Bont-Faen.

Daeth oddeutu 100 o bobl ynghyd i fwynhau ac i gymdeithasu nos Sul ddiwethaf (6 Mawrth), gan godi dros £900.

Dwywedodd trefnydd y noson Janet Davies, "Ry ni'n falch iawn fod ein digwyddiad codi arian cyntaf wedi bod mor llwyddiannus a dwi'n dra ddiolchgar i Anhar Miah a'i dim yn y Mughal am roi cymaint o groeso i ni. Diolch hefyd i bawb wnaeth gefnogi a gwneud y noson yn un hwylus dros ben."

Fforwm Rygbi yng Ngwesty'r Bear ar nos Iau, Mai 19 yw digwyddiad nesaf y pwyllgor apêl yma. Yn ymuno ar y panel gyda Simon Easterby; hyfforddwr y Sgarlets a chyn chwaraewr rygbi rhyngwladol Iwerddon, fydd nifer o enwogion eraill y byd rygbi.

Ceir tocynnau a mwy o fanylion oddi wrth Sian-Elin Jones ar 01446 781129.

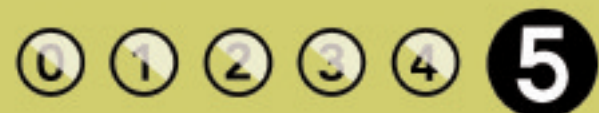


St David's Day celebrations at Welsh medium playgroup

THE children at Cylch Meithrin Bethesda celebrated with Welsh songs, daffodil hat making and Welsh cakes in Barry. All the staff and children dressed in national costume or something suitable in red!

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For tickets and more information about the event please contact Sian-Elin Jones on 01446 781129.
e-mail: sian@createyourday.co.uk
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Voters in the Vale and Bridgend are poles apart when it comes to referendum

GEM readers will probably be aware that this newspaper covers a wide area – in the main the two areas covered by the two local authorities of the Vale of Glamorgan and of Bridgend county borough.

Politically, Bridgend was held by Labour, even at the low point of the party's fortunes at the last election, while the Vale has been a key marginal for as long as anyone can remember.

However, the two areas have never been further apart than at last week's referendum on law making powers for Wales.

Bridgend was rock solid in support, with more than double the voters saying 'yes' than saying 'no'.

On a turnout of 35.4 per cent, there were 25,063 in favour (68.1 per cent of votes cast), and only 11,736 on the negative side.

However, in the Vale there was a higher turnout (39.7 per cent) but the voters came within a whisker of joining Monmouth as the only borough to say no.

The yes voters

REPORT by PHILIP IRWIN

totalled 19,430, gaining 52.5 per cent of the vote, while the negatives added up to 17,551.

As the only local authority to vote no was Monmouth – widely perceived to be the most Anglicised – does this mean that the Vale is the same?

Alternatively, does it mean that the Conservatives failed to get in step behind Welsh leader Nick Bourne, who was part of the all-party push for a yes vote?

Surprisingly, both yes campaigns were hailing the result a success.

Tim Thomas of Plaid was the campaign co-ordinator for Bridgend county borough – working alongside First Minister Carwyn Jones, although he will be standing against him in the May Assembly elections – and he put the good yes result down to hard work.

He said: "I believe our close cooperation was one of the prime reasons why 68.1 per cent of the county borough voted in favour of primary law-making

powers for Wales.

"This was not only the seventh highest yes vote in Wales, but also the biggest swing in favour of a yes from the 1997 referendum in the whole of Wales."

The much narrower win in the Vale was, according to yes campaign co-ordinator and Castleland Labour Vale Councillor, Chris Elmore, was also down to team work.

He said: "A yes vote in the Vale is incredible in my view. This is down to the hard work of all those who worked on the campaign locally, from across the political divide."

"When you consider that those who voted no in 1997 totalled almost 65 per cent of all votes cast, achieving more than 50 per cent voting yes is incredible, and just shows that people in the Vale are more supportive of the Assembly and what it is doing to improve Wales."

Coun Elmore said that over the last 12 years, voters had become more aware of how the Assembly could make a difference.

He said: "Clearly the commitment of the constituency AMs, Jane Hutt and Lorraine Barrett, and those who have served on the regional list, has also shown voters that AMs and the Assembly are committed to the many communities of Wales including the Vale."

Kevin Mahoney, who campaigned for a no vote in the Vale, felt that the resources of the yes campaign had been too much to counter.

He said: "We had all four parties against us, and trade union leaders speaking out, and they had no mandate from their members as far as I am aware."

He added that now that the yes campaigners had won, they were already talking about taking powers that, during the campaign, they had denied they were interested in.

He said: "Dafydd Elis Thomas did not talk about abolishing the Welsh Office during the campaign. That course of action would leave us with even less representation in Westminster than now."

Plaid Cymru AM Chris Francis said: "It is absolutely wonderful that there has been a change of view in the Vale since the Assembly was formed more than a decade ago."

"Obviously, the people of the Vale responded to the positive message from the 'Yes for Wales' campaign."

"I respect the views of those who voted no. As Assembly Members and as a Welsh government, we will have to work harder to overcome their concerns."

Porthcawl town councillor Chris Smart, a Conservative who was a staunch supporter of the no campaign, acknowledged that Bridgend had followed the national pattern with two thirds in favour of giving the Assembly extra powers.

"Personally, I am bitterly disappointed, but as a democrat, I have to go along with this result and I hope that the Assembly will use its new powers wisely for the benefit of both the people of Bridgend and also of Wales."

Leekes store introduces new Monsoon bed linen for spring

UPDATING bed linen is a quick and easy way of giving your bedroom a whole new look – and what better way to inject some fresh, spring colour into your boudoir than with the new ranges from famous high-street name, Monsoon?

Sally Coombes, bed linen expert at Leekes, said: "Like we have in other rooms in the house, we're moving away from the good old neutral palette and

gaining confidence when it comes to colour."

"As the 2011 collections from Monsoon shows, it's all about subtle colour additions that are lifting the overall look and feel of the bedroom, rather than an invasion of abstract pattern and acid brights, she said."

"It's a great time to be giving your bedroom a whole new look, Sally added."

Police Inspector in court over child sex offences

A police inspector from the Coychurch area has been charged with a series of child sex offences.

South Wales Police Inspector Geraint Lloyd Evans was charged last week with five offences:

1. Conspiring with others to incite engagement in unlawful sexual activity with a child under 13;

2. Possession of Section 1 ammunition;

3. Three offences of making indecent images of children;

4. Possession of four child abuse images;

5. Possession of extreme pornography.

Llanelli Magistrates Court decided that Inspector Evans will be held on remand and will appear at Swansea Crown Court tomorrow (March 11) along with three members of the public who have also been charged with offences related to indecent images of children.

The Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) is managing an investigation by South Wales Police (SWP) Public Protection Unit into allegations that 47-year-old Inspector Evans was in possession of indecent images of children.

A separate SWP criminal investigation in connection with this case has led to the arrest of four members of the public. Three have been charged and are being held on remand.

The IPCC Commissioner for Wales, Tom Davies said:

"I am satisfied that this is being thoroughly investigated. It would be inappropriate to comment further now that the judicial process has started."

A SWP statement said: "A 49-year-old male from the Cardiff area, a 49-year-old male from the Neath area, and a 54-year-old male from the Ross-on-Wye area, appeared at Llanelli Magistrates Court on March 3, 2011, charged with a number of

offences related to indecent images of children, including conspiracy to incite or engage in sexual activity with a child under the age of 13 years – contrary to Section 1.1 of the Criminal Law Act 1977.

"All three men were remanded in custody. They are due to appear at Swansea Crown Court on Friday, March 11."

The statement went on: "A 49-year-old male from the Ystrad Mynach

area also appeared at Llanelli Magistrates court on March 4, charged in relation to indecent images of children, including conspiracy to incite or engage in sexual activity with a child under the age of 13 years – contrary to Section 1.1 of the Criminal Law Act 1977.

"He was remanded in custody and is due to appear before Swansea Crown Court on Friday, March 11."

Man jailed after biting an innocent passer-by

by AJ SICLUNA

A YOUNG couple walking home through the centre of Barry were the victims of a totally unprovoked attack on New Year's Eve, Cardiff Crown Court heard.

Craig Harris had the side of his jaw bitten by 23-year-old Ricky Smith, who then attacked Mr Harris' girlfriend, Suzanne Ford, by rugby tackling her to the pavement, said prosecutor Tony Trigg.

Smith, of Barry, was jailed for a total of 20 months. He admitted wounding Mr Harris, causing Miss Ford actual bodily harm, and a breach of a conditional discharge for shoplifting.

Said Judge Philip Richards: "This was quite a nasty and frightening attack on two innocent people on New Year's Eve when everyone should have been happy and celebrating. You used your teeth as a weapon, as well as your fists."

Mr Trigg said that as the couple walked through Barry, they heard Smith shouting at them, something which he believed would provoke a confrontation.

He ran across the road and punched

Mr Harris hard in the face. There was a struggle and Smith lashed out and Mr Harris was stunned. Suddenly, Smith put him into a hold and bit the side of his face.

Mr Harris later said it felt as if he was trying to rip the side of his face off.

Seconds later, Smith rugby tackled Ms Ford.

Mr Harris was taken to hospital and the wound was stitched under anaesthetic. He was shocked and upset, and underwent regular blood tests to check he had no infections.

Ms Ford had grazing to her knees, scratch marks and sore ribs.

Smith was traced through CCTV footage and, said Mr Trigg, was well known to the police.

He was said to have convictions for a public order offence, assaulting the police, shoplifting, battery and theft.

Claire Pickthall representing him said: "He had a difficult childhood and has had difficulties with alcohol. There was no justification for what he did and it involved mistaken identity. He was gutted when he thought of the injuries he inflicted on Mr Harris."

'We aim to raise awareness on consequences of cuts' – SAYS LOCAL CAMPAIGN GROUP

TRADE UNIONS and community groups throughout the Vale have united to campaign against proposed cuts.

The 'Vale of Glamorgan Against the Cuts' (VGAC) group says it is working to raise awareness of the impact that the cuts are having and will increasingly have within the local community.

VGAC is concerned about the long-term impacts that will arise within Cardiff and Vale healthcare as a result of the £80 million shortfall that will arise from the April 2011 budget. The group says that with such a massive budget shortfall, coupled with the application of recruitment freezes in certain areas, the impact for patients could be catastrophic.

VGAC is also alarmed that attacks are being made on essential services such as school crossing patrols and youth offending services, and that so-called non-essential services such as leisure are under increasing threat of privatisation.

With further job losses expected to be announced soon, VGAC is determined to

ADVERTISING FEATURE

engage the community and provide a voice for people who are against public spending cuts.

Jenny Griffin, VGAC spokesperson, said: "We are experiencing the biggest challenge for a generation. The Westminster government is making a political choice to cut Baby Bonds, Child Benefit and Sure Start – and they now have Disability Living Allowance and Incapacity Benefit in their sights."

"It is shocking to see services such as school crossing patrols facing attack – it is the right of every single school child to travel to school safely, and that level of safety is being put in jeopardy to save money."

"In Wales, we are experiencing a substantial budget reduction. There is already an education funding gap of £604 per pupil in our education system – yet Mr Cameron claims that Wales is receiving a 'fair deal'. Frankly, I don't think Wales is receiving a fair deal."

"It really is an insult to our communities and those that work hard to deliver services

to support those communities. Our society and welfare state is being made to pay because of the mistakes made by the financial sector."

"There is £123 billion of uncollected, avoided and evaded taxes that could be collected by the UK government – yet they would rather allow those less well off in society to take the pain."

"VGAC is working to highlight these issues."

The Vale of Glamorgan Against the Cuts campaign has launched a Facebook page under the same name.

An event has also been scheduled to take place on March 12 at Barry Town Hall.

A brass band will be playing and campaign coordinators will be available to talk about any cuts or service reductions that might be concerning local people.

For further information about how to get involved, or to join the campaign group as an individual, or as a community group, please contact Jenny Griffin on 029 20729463.

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After the conclusive 'YES' vote in the Referendum on streamlining the work of the National Assembly... **WALES IS MOVING ON!**

It has been heartening to hear the wide range of positive responses to the result of the Referendum last week, which gave a clear expression of public opinion by voting to improve the way laws are made in Wales.

I have enjoyed the last few weeks of discussion on the doorstep, in shopping areas and at meetings explaining what the referendum was all about and encouraging my constituents to vote Yes last Thursday.

My simple message was that it would make Wales a stronger part of the UK, ensuring that laws that only affect Wales, such as health, transport, housing and education, are dealt with in Wales.

With the combined efforts of all those involved in the Referendum campaign, the message got through to enough people to win the vote last Thursday with a respectable turn-out in the Vale of Glamorgan, given the constitutional complexities of the Referendum.

But I am also clear that we owe it to those who voted No or didn't vote at all, that we still have to prove our worth and serve their needs and meet their concerns.

Over the past year, I have been negotiating with the Chief

Secretary to the Treasury, Danny Alexander MP, to make the case for Wales to have more flexibility in the level and management of our finances.

The One Wales Government appointed an independent Commission chaired by the economist, Professor Gerry Holtham, which reported last year.

The Commission concluded that we are underfunded by £300million as a result of the application of the out-dated Barnett formula, which is used to calculate our share of funding from the UK Government.

Gerry Holtham has proposed that a funding 'floor' be implemented to prevent further funding shortfalls emerging via this formula.

His recommendations received unanimous all-party support in the Assembly.

The Chief Secretary has said the UK Government would consider the Holtham recommendations after the Referendum and cited the importance of reducing the budget deficit as a priority.

We are playing our part in this respect, choosing to absorb the £163m revenue and capital budget cuts imposed on us last year and securing Assembly support for a budget for 2011-13, which seeks to protect our public services and support our economic recovery. I have now written to the Chief Secretary to say that

ASSEMBLY NOTES



by Jane Hutt AM
(Assembly Minister for Business and Budget)

the positive result from the Referendum should now give the green light to opening meaningful discussions about the Holtham Commission recommendations for fairer funding mechanisms for Wales.

The First Minister, Rt Hon Carwyn Jones AM made a statement to the Assembly on Tuesday, March 8 on 'the next steps' following the positive result on Thursday and he said that moving forward with the Holtham recommendations was part of the work that needed to be taken forward.

We have a range of responsibilities as elected representatives and Ministers serving in the

National Assembly for Wales, crafting the right policies for Wales, ensuring that we have an adequate funding base and developing legislation when it is appropriate to do so.

As Carwyn Jones said this week: "Thursday's Referendum was more than the streamlining of the law-making process - it demonstrated that Wales is an ambitious country, eager to get on."

I am eager to play my part, as Finance Minister, to ensure we have an adequate funding base, albeit constrained by UK Government cuts, taking our share of the budget deficit reduction, but making the clear case for an improved and fairer settlement.

We engage with the UK Government with a stronger voice as a result of last week's vote and as one young person who went out to vote yes, said to me on Friday: "The world has moved on as a result of the vote!"

This is about us showing that we have got confidence to do the best we can for Wales - our economy, our communities, our young people and senior citizens.

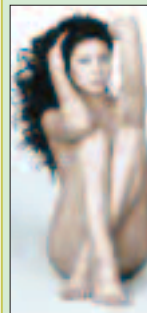
Thank you for giving us the opportunity to serve you more effectively as a result of the positive outcome of the Referendum last Thursday.

ACTION COFFEE

ACTION Medical Research is holding a coffee morning in St Helen's Church Hall, Wyndham Street, Barry, on Tuesday, March 15 at 10.30am-noon, courtesy of the Mayor of the Vale. Tickets £1.50, to include tea/coffee and a biscuit.

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CARDIFF ROAD INDUSTRIAL ESTATES

More than meets the eye!

BARRY PROVIDES STRENGTH AND VARIETY IN ITS LOCAL ECONOMY!

by TIM CHAPMAN

The health of any economy is the provision of a wide variety of businesses, offering a number of services – and on both counts Cardiff Road and the local industrial estates score highly.

Not only are there service-related companies offering vital support to the local community and other businesses, there are manufacturers and product providers, too.

Glamorgan Garden Timber Products is a niche supplier of 'garden

furniture'. Philip Harding, the manager, explained: "We have fencing, trellis work, bird houses, garden chairs, picnic benches and wishing wells."

"The products are made in Bridgend, but shortly we will be making them in the unit next door."

The company, which opened last year, can even supply small quantity orders the same day.

With the spring and summer months under way, it is expecting a busy time, as local people plan what to do in their gardens this year.

The astonishing variety of the businesses in

The Business Centre – a key cog in the Vale's economy.



the area is shown by Baymarine Services (Marine) Ltd, which offers its services not just in the UK but abroad too.

Ian Morgan explained: "Baymarine Services is involved in the tank cleaning, engine room cleaning and painting in the marine industry."

"We carry this work out and deal with either the owners' or contractors' account. We regularly work in European and UK dry docks as well as tank farms and factory sites, we also do sea going and wet dock work."

"While most of our

work is charged at an hourly rate, where there is clear specification and/or tender documents we can quote a fixed rate."

"Business to business" companies feature prominently in the Cardiff Road area.

Corona Lighting is celebrating 20 years of trading this year.

The managing director, Matthew Day, said: "We are a wholesale business which offers commercial lighting for business use, and a large range of energy saving products."

Another 'B2B' company is The Business Centre.

Its manager, James Mason, pointed out: "At The Business Centre, we have a number of years experience within the serviced office industry and understand that along with competitive prices we need to offer the highest level of customer service and professional outlook for businesses."

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(CONTINUED ON PAGE 15)



ABOVE: For a cheerful early morning welcome and great snacks and meals, people can visit Bakers Baguettes.

The industrial estates in Barry are a vital part of a vibrant local economy.



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CARDIFF ROAD INDUSTRIAL ESTATES

More than meets the eye!

Matthew Thomas of Asguard helps with asbestos removal and surveys.



(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14)

"We also have a free on-site gymnasium for all in-house clients and an in-house coffee shop, The Coffee Zone."

People can approach The Business Centre for prices and the latest offers.

For people concerned about the removal of asbestos, Asguard could provide the solution. The managing director, Matthew Thomas, who is Barry born and bred, commented: "We can do asbestos removal and asbestos surveys. We also have a '24 hour' service which can respond to emergencies."

The company started in 2005 and is HSE licensed. Manufacturing and B2B companies are also complemented in the Palmerston and Cadoux areas by strong retail concerns.

VFM Meat Supplies, owned by Simon Nash, has a simple, but effective mission statement.

Simon revealed: "We aim to cut out the middleman to keep prices low."

He stressed: "We offer something different from supermarkets, cutting the meat freshly every day on the premises - everything is done in-house. We offer best quality and because of bulk buying, we are able to pass savings on to our customers."

VFM is open seven days a week, from 7.30am to 5.30pm every day, apart from Sunday, when it is open from 9am to 2pm.

For those wanting a cheery welcome and something to eat in the morning, there are few better places to visit than Bakers Baguettes, which offers a £1.99 breakfast deal from

7.30am to 11am.

Angela Baker, the owner, said: "We provide a wide selection of baguettes, sandwiches, paninis, hot foods like chicken curries, omlettes, jacket potatoes, tea and coffee and soft drinks."

Bakers Baguettes trades Monday to Friday, from 7.30am to 3pm.

1st Line Taxis runs 40 vehicles throughout the Vale, but the manager Mr Iqbal Miah promised: "We'll go anywhere in the world!"

Most journeys take place in and around the Vale and to Cardiff. During the day the taxis are not on a meter which means prices are kept down. A trip from Barry centre to the outskirts of the town can start for as little as £4. A return trip to Cardiff starts from £30.



Glamorgan Garden Timber Products is a niche supplier of 'garden furniture'.

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PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS ROUND-UP

Paddling in the footsteps of the Vale's Iolo Morgannwg!

SIX ramblers headed by Rachel, made their way to the pretty village of Llanbethery and were shown a dummy airstrip, put in place to lure enemy aircraft away from the RAF airbase at nearby St Athan.

The lane comes to an abrupt end at the Thaw Valley, where the River Thaw winds its way down to Aberthaw on its journey to the sea. They were met with flooding, but paddled across the valley to join the footpath to Flemingston.

On Flemingston Moor there once stood a medieval village but there are no traces, except for a mention on the OS Map. Reaching Flemingston Court, an early 16th century fortified manor house, the group heard about Iolo Morgannwg, Bardic name of Edward Williams, who was born at Pen-onn near Llanfarnham, but raised in Flemingston.

In 1789, he produced a collection of poems by Dafydd ap Gwilym from the late 14th century, including poems he had allegedly found, and in 1792 he founded the Gorsedd community of Welsh bards in London.

After his death, it was discovered that he had written many poems and passed them off as well known poets' work.

The group made their way by track and field to St Hilary, where they could look back towards Beaupre Castle, home of the Bassett family.

They passed East Down and cut across fields to The Garm,



Getting their boots wet!

passing close to the ruined 16th century Llantrithyd Place whose hidden landscaped garden is apparently deemed as important as Aberglasney, which is set in the Tywi Valley in Carmarthenshire.

The group stopped at St Illtyd's church for lunch, sitting in a sun trap surrounded by snowdrops, crocus and daffodils, then made their way back to Llantrithyd.

On March 12, meet at 8.30am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a 9-mile mod/hard walk

taking in Black Mountain, Table Mountain and Pen Allt Mawr; contact Liz on 029 2051 3698.

On March 13, meet at 9am at Cogan for an 11-mile moderate walk at Monmouth, the Kymin, Newland and Redbrook; contact Joy on 01446 737131.

On March 15, the mid-week walk will leave Sully church at 10.30am for a 6/7-mile easy/moderate walk in the area; contact Viv and Val on 029 2053 1045.

On March 12, meet at 8.30am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a 9-mile mod/hard walk

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Staff swim from Dover to Calais!



Above: A route map in case they got lost on the way!

Splashing out for the Breast Care Centre

EMPLOYEES from the Ortho Clinical Diagnostics (OCD) facility in Pencoed took to the water recently, taking up a challenge to raise funds for the Breast Centre Cardiff and Vale at Llandough Hospital.

As part of the popular 'Lengths for Life' fund raising campaign, employees chose to take a dip at nearby Pencoed Swimming Pool, using their lunchtime breaks as the perfect opportunity to complete lengths.

Funds raised by the campaign will be used to purchase equipment for the Breast Care Centre and invest in new tech-

nology.

A spokeswoman said: "Staff were set the challenge of swimming the equivalent of the English Channel during the month of February. The trip from Dover to Calais and back is an impressive 52.4 mile in total, which translates to 3,372 lengths of the pool.

"A total of 27 swimmers took part, including Commonwealth swimmer Sara Lougher (who is the daughter of an OCD engineer), clocking up the lengths at lunch time in Pencoed Pool.

"Not only was the target met and the return trip to Calais completed

but the group went on to swim an additional 701 lengths. The team can now officially add to the 'Lengths for Life' total having raised an impressive £2,000 so far."

Pencoed swimming pool centre manager, David Howley commented: "It's great to have people using our facility to raise money for charity.

"Lunchtime swimming is increasingly popular, as it offers customers a chance to unwind during a busy day. We've enjoyed getting behind the team and all of us at the centre would like to say congratulations to everyone who took part."

Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig dress up for Saint David!

CHILDREN and staff at Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig really got into the spirit of St David's Day, with a variety of events for the children

They made a special effort to dress up in traditional Welsh costumes and wore Welsh rugby and football shirts.

A special whole school St David's Day service was held and Headteacher Mrs Sian Owen said, "It was lovely to see a sea of red in front of my eyes during the service and hearing the children sing the Welsh National Anthem was a special moment and very emotional.

Year 2 pupils also held a St David's Day service for parents and governors of Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig. Mrs Catherine



The children dressed in their traditional Welsh costumes.

VALE PACT

COURT PACT, Scout Hall, Ilminster Street, March 10 at 7pm;
GIBBONSDOWN PACT, Communities First Office, Aberaeron Close, March 25 at 6pm;
DYFAN PACT, Barry Comprehensive School, March 29 at 6pm;
PENDOYLAN PACT, Pendoylan Community Council, March 10 at 7.45pm;
LLANTWIT MAJOR PACT, Llantwit Leisure Centre, March 22 at 7pm;
STANWELL PACT, Stanwell Comprehensive School, 7pm.
If you have any issues that are affecting your quality of life, but are unable to attend a meeting, contact your local Neighbourhood Policing or log onto www.ourbobby.com

Pupils around the school also got a chance to bake and eat traditional Welsh cakes with the help of headteacher Mrs Owen.

• **Children of Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig** pictured in their traditional Welsh costumes on St David's Day.



What town thought when market was under threat

WHEN The GEM went out and about in Cowbridge last week to ask local people what they felt should the historic cattle market be forced to close, the mood was downbeat – but then no-one was expecting it to have a reprieve! (See story on page 1)

Our snap survey followed speculation that the market would close at the end of the month, after negotiations between the Vale Council and the operators, Glamorgan Marts, broke down.

We asked people what they wanted to see happen to the cattle market:

25% of those asked wanted to see a car park there; 75% wanted the cattle market to stay, and nobody wanted to see another supermarket built on the site.

At present, the cattle market is open only on Tuesday each week. The rest of the time the site is used as a car park for people visiting the town. When interviewed after parking his car on the cattle market site, Mr Roger Helliwell said, in reference to the market: "For the use that it gets, better it be closed."

There has been speculation that the site is being considered for development by a supermarket. When asked if he would prefer a supermarket there, Mr

Halliwell said: "I don't know if a supermarket is the answer."

Should the site be a car park, five days a week, rather than four?

Mr Harris, whose wife is a farmer's daughter, stressed we would be "losing our heritage." He admitted the site was used more as a car park nowadays but did not want to see the market go.

Mr Newbury, a resident of Llantrisant, said the market was "hardly used." His lack of concern for its closure was echoed by Mrs Gibson, who said she was "not affected" and "just used the town for shopping."

Mr Owens and Mrs Doreen Lewis each expressed concern for the distance farmers would have to travel to trade. Mrs. Lewis has a nephew who travels from west Wales to Cowbridge market each week.

Adrian Evans, county executive officer for Farmers Union Wales, understood their angst. He said that he was "very surprised that there was no consultation with farmers," concerning the decision to close.

Having written to the Vale Council on behalf of FUW, Mr Evans described the market as a "vital service and very important to economic life in the Vale."

Heather Mo, an employee of The Horse and Groom, agreed with his sentiments. She described the closure as a "shame" and the "end of an era."

Kelynn Dark told how he had only seen a small number of farmers attend the market in recent times. As a stone mason working in the vicinity of the market, he described it as an

"eyesore" and said a "supermarket would bring more people into the town."

However, it has been argued that the closure of the market deterring farmers from visiting Cowbridge, will have a profound affect on local tradesmen.

Peter John, from the agricultural retailer, Arthur John, said there was "considerable concern for the effect the market closure would have on the business."

His work colleague, Bill Jones said that "with the closure, farmers will go to Abergavenny and Carmarthen markets. They will be the towns that benefit instead of Cowbridge."

There are conflicting views over how the closure will affect local businesses. Deborah Parker said that a "supermarket rather than a cattle market would be more likely to bring passing trade to the boutiques in the town."

One resident, who did not want to be named, made the point that "while there is no other use for the site it should stay open. It characterises Cowbridge and it would be a shame to see it go after all these years."

The general consensus was that it does not make sense to lose the cattle market when there is no suitable replacement for the value it brings to Cowbridge.

It begs the question, when the town says goodbye to the cattle market at the end of this month, what will be an appropriate substitute?

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GEM RURAL PROFILE

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The rural Vale builds on its timeless virtues, to develop a bright future

AT the very heart of the rural Vale – and this is hardly a surprise – is the hands-on role played by local farmers.

The local countryside is inextricably linked to the type of farming that takes place, whether it be the wide open spaces along the coast where sheep graze, or the fields divided by neat hedgerows that line the many lanes in the area.

It could be argued that those hedgerows

and fences have kept non-farmers out, fostering a town and country mentality – but things are changing rapidly, as Adrian Evans, the county executive officer at the Farmers' Union of Wales, told The GEM.

He said: "The farming community is aiming to invite more people to visit working farms, which are fascinating places."

"On June 12, farmers will be inviting visitors to discover at first hand all about life on Britain's farms and find out for themselves what happens beyond the

farm gate. This annual event is a must for anyone interested in how farmers produce our food, and the ways they care for our countryside too."

The event is called 'Open Farm Sunday' and the Welsh regional co-ordinator, Eira Edwards, commented: "We often hear farmers say no-one will be interested in my farm – but those who haven't taken part will be surprised!"

She added that a series of workshops is available to farmers, run by LEAF (Linking Environment And Farming), to help them plan to welcome visitors.

The first takes place on Monday, March 14, at Slade Farm in St Bride's Major.

Annabel Shackleton, an Open Farm Sunday manager, said: "Last year, more people attended Open Farm Sunday events than Glastonbury, and we're keen to build on that success and see even more farms across the country taking part."

"The workshops themselves are relaxed and informal – there is something for everyone, however large or small an event."

Now in its sixth year, Open Farm Sunday gives the public the opportunity to discover where their food comes from and how farmers care for the countryside.

More than 450 farms across the UK are expected to open. The scheme has proved good for both hosts and guests, as Annabel explained: "There are real business benefits too for those farmers who host events."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 19)

by PHILIP IRWIN

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GEM RURAL PROFILE

Promoting NATIONAL PET MONTH April 2nd - May 2nd



(Continued from page 17)

"It can help you improve sales, learn new marketing skills, and build staff morale and a sense of pride, as well as improving relationships with the local community."

To find out which farms in your area are taking part, visit www.farmsunday.org.

Farmers can book a place on a workshop, or get in touch with their regional coordinator, by telephoning LEAF on 02476 413 911 or by emailing annabel.shackleton@leaf.org.uk.

A GREAT PLACE TO DO BUSINESS!

There is a strong recognition these days that diversification should be a strong element in the business plan for farmers, particularly in the Vale. Things have moved on in recent years and now many farms are creating new rural businesses in a variety of areas.

Outside Cowbridge, John Homfray has developed a composting business which now takes all the kitchen waste and green waste from the Vale Council's street collections.

Many farms are looking at solar powered roof paneling or small wind turbines to supply their own electricity and sell the balance back to the National Grid.

A new scheme, administered by the Vale Council's Creative Rural Communities team, will be offering grant aid to encourage farming businesses to branch out into medium and budget price holiday accommodation – perhaps good quality bunk houses, or caravan and campsite provision.

This grant aid is also available for guided nature tours or 'rural skills packages'.

However, amid all the new ideas for developing the rural economy, the traditional areas remain strong.

One company with great faith in the future of the Vale is Frank Sutton Ltd, who hold the John Deere franchise and moved to St Mary Hill in the Vale just over a year ago.

Ben Sutton told The GEM: "We always did business in the Vale, but felt that our base in Raglan was not near enough."

"This is our first full season here and the response has been excellent. The Vale is definitely a great place to do business!"

Delight as Cowbridge Cattle Market is given a reprieve!

THERE was delight in the farming community this week when it was announced that Cowbridge Cattle Market will continue for at least another 12 months.

The threatened closure meant that livestock would have to be

transported to the nearest markets at Carmarthen or Abergavenny.

The threatened closure had also been opposed by local town and community councils.

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR STAKE?

SCATS Farm & Country in Bridgend is offering customers the chance to stock up on a range of products ahead of the fencing season, with a discount event from March 14-27, and special offers on more than 35 different lines.

Priding itself on offering exceptional value for money, SCATS Farm & Country in Bridgend has a comprehensive range of quality products and customers can expect to take advantage of fantastic deals on sawn timber products, timber gates, stock fencing, barbed wire, hinge sets and galvanised staples.

Sourcing and sup-

plying more than a million fencing stakes, the SCATS Countrystore group has enough quality timber to fence from Bridgend to Berlin!

Justin Lewis, store manager in Bridgend, said, "We have some simply outstanding offers and discounts in store from March 14, providing the perfect opportunity for local farmers, contractors, smallholders and horse owners to check their fencing provision before turning animals out this spring."

The farm and country store, based on the Brackla Industrial Estate in Bridgend, sources more than 90 per cent of its wood products from the UK,

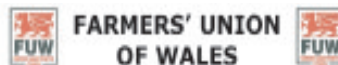
with the vast majority of suppliers having Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification, so customers can be assured that the wood they buy has been managed in a responsible manner.

All wood on sale has been pressure treated to increase the life expectancy of the timber, giving customers more for their money.

The following special offers will be available between March 14 and 27: 10% off Rylock Stock fence; 10% off selected metal gates; 10% off selected wood gates; 25% off field gate hinge sets; round fencing stakes from £1.05 (ex vat); and strainer posts from £3.25 (ex vat)

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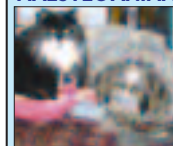
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Get on stage with a live band!

A NEW-STYLE 'Jam night' is to start at the Stage Door in the Grand Pavilion, giving singers and musicians a chance to play with a live band.

The open jam night is for all ages and abilities, and features the house band, 'Mojomatic'.

A spokeswoman said: "Come along and play in a professional venue with stage lighting and sound provided. All musicians are welcome to play, either as a band, solo artists, singers or with the house band."

The next three scheduled dates are: April 5, May 12 and June 16.

Anyone wishing to perform with the house band should email Nikki at furnessjones@aol.com and list the songs you would like to perform, or contact 07916 342370.

IF the success of the *Bourne* films has achieved anything, then it's making quite a big star out of Matt Damon; having taken the ball and run with it in the likes of *Green Zone*, *The Informant!* and *True Grit*, the star is now in a position where he can choose to work with any leading director.

So it is all the more refreshing to see him work with first-time director George Nolfi in *The Adjustment Bureau*.

Damon plays David Norris, a political candidate whose disillusionment with his election is tempered by a chance meeting with a woman called Elise (Emily Blunt). She vanishes into the night, only for Norris to track her down again on the bus; however, this second meeting sets off alarm bells and a shadowy group, known only as *The Adjustment Bureau*, must stop David and Elise from being together...

The Adjustment Bureau is a difficult film to classify; perhaps its closest relative is *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*, in as much as both films deal with love, albeit with a peculiar twist. The difference is

that *The Adjustment Bureau* is all about that first meeting, the infinite possibilities of love, mixed with an existential look at how important fate and free will are in our lives - it is also an absolutely mesmerising piece of cinema.

George Nolfi is hardly a newcomer, having written the final part of the *Bourne* franchise, along with *Ocean's 12* and *The Sentinel* among others, but this is his first time behind the camera, something that very rarely shows.

Nolfi's direction is particularly stylish, the film making the most of the New York location. He stamps a visual identity on the film, yet grounds the more peculiar aspects so that you concentrate wholly on the story.

A muted use of special effects adds a degree of urgency to proceedings, but all is marshalled with aplomb by Nolfi, whose work with the likes of Paul Greengrass and Steven Soderbergh has seemingly rubbed off.

Loosely adapted from a Philip K Dick story, Nolfi's script is also well executed. Starting off as a love story with a clever meet-cute, Nolfi then throws in the curveball of the bureau, which sud-

SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

denly takes the story into a new realm.

However, Nolfi's subtle way of introducing this element of the story works superbly; while just exactly who the bureau are goes unanswered, yet is hinted at, it doesn't annoy or anger, Nolfi concentrating more on characterisation than fanciful notions.

The film plays on two levels without feeling overdone or undercooked and he weaves in the notions of love and fate, yet doesn't labour upon them to the detriment of the pacing, keeping the story moving at all times.

There are more than a few plot holes if you are willing to look hard enough, the passing of

time seemingly failing to dampen love no matter how poorly you've been treated in particular, but Nolfi's script works very well, adding a dollop of wry humour into the mix and keeping things light.

Of course, in love stories, existential or not, you need to have two characters, and actors, who convince you to root for them, and both Matt Damon and Emily Blunt do an exceedingly good job of that here.

Damon, who has hit a rich vein of form lately, is wholly engaging as a man who is driven and ambitious, yet shows a hint of fragility beneath the surface, and as the story progresses, carries the weight of events.

Damon does the role of man fighting against the odds well. Opposite him, Emily Blunt is absolutely wonderful. You can wholly buy into the character of David falling head over heels for her. She is witty and full of charisma, yet also beguilingly tender as the bureau try and keep the two apart.

Given their mysterious origins, the men from the bureau tasked with stopping the pair aren't short of character. Anthony Mackie is quietly dignified as the agent tasked with following Norris,

and whose empathy for the pair's plight sets the narrative ball rolling. John Slattery parlays his *Mad Men* cool into a sardonic agent who almost seems resigned to the eventual outcome; with Terrence Stamp as the bureau agent known as 'The Hammer' exuding casual menace, there is nary a weak turn on show from the cast.

While the eventual outcome comes straight from the romance genre cliché book, it almost slips by unnoticed, so wholly are you rooting for the two characters.

What Nolfi has succeeded in doing is merging two disparate genres, creating a film that is a truly wonderful watch; *The Adjustment Bureau* is a captivating way to spend 105 minutes of your life.

VERDICT - A tender love story wrapped up in layers of questions about fate, free will and the choices we make, *The Adjustment Bureau* is a superb piece of work.

Well scripted and directed by George Nolfi, coupled with excellent turns by a top-notch cast, in particular Matt Damon and Emily Blunt, *The Adjustment Bureau* is a charmingly intelligent effort.

Highly recommended.

OCEAN LOUNGE • PORTHKERRY

It looks like being a classic summer season here at the Ocean Lounge. With a few more improvements, and some changes to the menu with a new specials board, we are definitely worth visiting.

Can you be entertained?

Mixing it up a bit more this year! As well as cabaret nights on a Saturday we will be having some bands and comedians, plus a mixture of other acts on a Friday (Easter onwards) such as karaoke, theme nights, band nights, comedy nights, and drag artists, there is something for everyone. It's the only place to go to over the Bank holiday weekends, with 3 big nights of entertainment. Keep an eye out for what's coming.

And to eat? We offer a great value menu from only £4.99 with traditional family favourites, plus some more unusual fayre too. Don't forget our Curry with a pint on Thursday evenings from the end of May onwards. It's been really popular, with home made curries changing weekly, plus the Thursday quiz. Sunday lunch from £6.95 offers exceptional value for a table served meal in relaxed surroundings without the hustle and the bustle of the usual carvery fare. Booking for lunch is definitely recommended.

The location? With fantastic views from the cliff top overlooking the Bristol Channel, with views to The Knap and the historic islands of Steephholm and Flatholm, and on a clear day across to Weston it is a great place to find refreshment with the large cliff top patio and outdoor seating. And yet only a 10 minute trip from Barry or Llantwit Major.

What else? A large car park and pleasant location makes us an ideal place to hold a wedding reception, birthday party, conference or any private function. In short, a great place, serving good food and good beer, with a great atmosphere!

Bookings for Mothers Day now being taken, 3 course meal £9.95, plus pianist/violin. Booking definitely recommended to avoid disappointment.

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Out and About with The GEM

Art exhibition in Penarth gallery opens

AN exhibition opens this week at the Washington Gallery, staged by Penarth Arts and Crafts Ltd (PACL) entitled 'Tracks and Traces' – a collaboration between photographer Sam Hughes and printmaker Joseph (Jo) Field. Work will be displayed in the lower gallery from March 7 – March 26, with an opening night on Friday (March 11) from 7pm – 9pm. Entrance is £2 and there is a pay bar available.

Jo Field is exhibiting a series of collages, 'Rural tensions', which are a

personal comment on the tensions and pressures faced by rural communities in the early part of the 21st Century.

Sam Hughes' photographs, taken inside the Penarth Pavilion last autumn, aim to depict the mysterious beauty that can be found in dereliction.

Said Sam: "I was recently given an opportunity to see the (Pavilion) Ballroom and was amazed by the degree of dereliction and the enduring vibrancy of the colours."

"In its poignant state, there is still a fascinating beauty."

LOCAL EISTEDDFOD GROUP SET TO MEET

THE first meeting of the local committee that has taken on the task of raising money to support the 2012 National Eisteddfod when it comes to Llandow, will take place on Monday, March 14, at 7pm in Illtud's 216 restaurant, Llantwit Major.

Each area of the Vale has been asked to raise funds for the event, and Ros Lewis is the spokeswoman for the group covering St Donat's, Llantwit, Llanmaes and St Athan.

She said: "Our group has a rather challenging target of £42,500, and we would like as many people to get involved in the fundraising as possible."

"This is a chance to come along and meet members of the organising committee and discuss how to get involved."

There will be free coffee at the meeting. For further information, contact Ros Lewis on 01446 793530, or by e-mail on rlewis@llantwit.orangehome.co.uk

Crockery from a feminist viewpoint!

RIGHT: Ann Townson and Mel Palmer-Forse celebrate International Women's Day.



PAINTER Ann Townson and ceramic sculptor Mel Palmer-Forse give feminist perspectives on domestic crockery in an exhibition, 'In House', celebrating 100 years of International Women's Day, at the Travellers Gallery, Broad Street Station, Barry until April 7.

Both artists are members of VOGA (Vale of Glamorgan Artists) and volunteer their time and professional expertise in partnership with Mind in the Vale to help run the gallery which is located in the Travellers in Mind Café.

Flower arrangers

PENCOED Flower Arranging Society have a meeting on Monday, March 21 at 7pm in Pencoed College, with a talk by Kevin Thomas of Pencoed on 'The Flower Arranger's Garden'.

Everyone welcome. Contact 01656 657796.

Gardening talk

A G'NIGHT with the Waltons – Terry Walton – is offered by Cowbridge Gardening Club at 7.30pm on Thursday, March 31.

Terry Walton is well known in the gardening world for his horticultural spot on the Jeremy Vine show on Radio 2.

He has had an allotment for over 50 years on the same site, and will be keen to pass on his gardening knowledge.

Most of his skills and knowledge have been passed down from experienced gardeners and he grows organically.

The meeting will be in the lesser hall, Cowbridge. New members are welcome at £6 for one year's subscription. Visitors can attend on any evening for £2.

Ty Hafan lottery results

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D660.

£2,000: 329031.

The rollover, which now stands at £1,000, was not won this week.

£10: 5 8 9 2 1 5.

821202, 392022, 629840,

208402, 501235, 548899,

594699, 518342, 750958,

382336, 530046, 699366,

416556, 336487, 814503,

492041, 473905, 751880,

547348.

£5: 865483, 586714,

430048, 273534, 551204,

202911, 146910, 451731,

893398, 485143, 393382.

730249, 475492, 650576, 841385, 128383, 253536, 269646, 204480, 787326, 755397, 757963, 388750, 261370, 419791, 871462, 423643, 514766, 705997, 330576, 102658, 502043, 236455, 218169, 363943, 544196, 779203, 423844, 441396, 156741.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information 838941, 238693, 723064, please call telephone 450042, 653213, 109777, 02920 672062.

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Pippa is looking for a home



Pippa loves to play.

THIS WEEK Linda Feagan highlights Pippa, an eight-month-old collie/lab cross who loves her food and her toys.

She also enjoys a rough and tumble play in the field with other dogs. She is quite strong-minded, so will need an owner who is used to training similar characters. She would also enjoy living with another, calm dog.

To know more about Pippa, call the centre on 01656 725219, or visit Court Colman, Pen-y-Fai, Bridgend. You can also see Pippa's friends on our website at www.dogstrust.org.uk

Fairtrade fun THE Llantwit Major benefice will be celebrating Fairtrade Fortnight in style at the Old School community centre, St Athan village on Friday, March 11 with morning coffee at 10am-12midday and afternoon tea, 2pm-4pm.

Bunting, decorating, Traidcraft stall. Families welcome.

Back for 2011...
CRAFT FAIR
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Pan-fried Salmon and Hollandaise sauce.
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Ampouire (creamy pepper sauce)
Championing (rich mushroom sauce)

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ST DAVID'S DAY COMES EARLY AT PORTHCEIRI!

IT WAS a showcase day last weekend for the Canolfan Porthceiri Centre, where restoration work has been going on for some time.

On February 26, an early St David's Day fayre was opened by the reigning Miss Wales, Courtenay Hamilton.

Appearing during the afternoon were Barry Brass Band, Cadoxton Tae Kwon Do, and Positive Photographic Images, where the society were demonstrating digital photography tricks.

The Desert Divas give a belly dancing display, and there was an exhibition by the Baruc Art Group.

Of course, as with any good fair, there were cakes, jewellery, arts and crafts, Fairtrade products... and much more!

More photographs and videos of the event can be viewed on

www.valeevents.co.uk/porthceiri



Cadoxton Tae Kwon Do performed a demonstration.



The Desert Divas get loosened up for a performance.



The Porthceiri Centre team.



Vale AM Jane Hutt meets Miss Wales.



ABOVE: The Barry Brass Band.

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GROVE ESTATES



ANGLE CLOSE, BARRY
• Well presented 2 bedroom end link property
• Gas central heating & double glazed
• Conservatory
• Good sized gardens to front & rear
• Stunning views over countryside
• Viewing highly recommended

£120,000



BERKROLLES AVENUE, ST ATHAN
• 3 bedroom semi detached in popular location
• 3 reception rooms
• Good size grounds
• Gas central heating
• Double glazing
• Offered freehold with vacant possession & no chain

£102,950



BRYN AWEL, BUTTRILLS ROAD
• 4 bedroom detached property in popular location
• Gas central heating & Double glazed
• 3 reception rooms
• Garage, driveway & spacious well maintained gardens
• Viewing highly recommended

£244,950



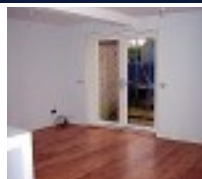
ST MARY'S AVENUE, BARRY
• 3 bedroom bay fronted mid terrace in central location
• Gas central heating & double glazed
• Ideal investment/first time purchase
• Offered with vacant possession & no chain

£89,995



MAES Y CWM STREET, BARRY
• 3 bedroom bay fronted mid terrace in central location
• Gas central heating & double glazed
• Very well presented throughout
• Viewing highly recommended
• Offered with vacant possession & no chain
• Offers in excess of

£130,000



WOLFE CLOSE, BARRY
• 3 bedroom property in popular location
• Gas central heating
• Double glazing
• Driveway to front
• Viewings highly recommended
• Offered freehold with vacant possession

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BOROUGH AVENUE, BARRY
• Well presented 5 bedroom semi-detached property
• Driveway to front for approx 2-3 cars
• Two reception rooms
• Double glazed & gas central heating
• Enclosed rear garden
• Offered freehold with no chain

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BARRY ROAD, BARRY
• 3 bedroom end terrace in popular location
• Gas central heating & Double glazed
• 2 reception rooms
• Exceptionally large accommodation
• Offered with vacant possession and no chain

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PORT ROAD EAST, BARRY
• 3 bedroom semi detached in sought after location
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FAIRFORD STREET, BARRY
• 2 Bedroom mid terrace property
• Gas central heating
• Double glazing
• Viewings highly recommended
• Ideal investment or first time purchase
• Offered with vacant possession & no chain

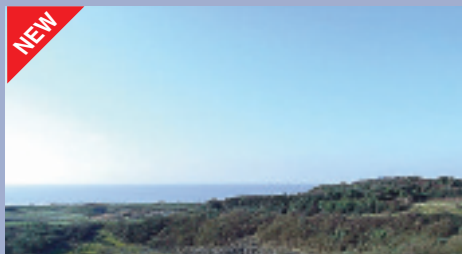
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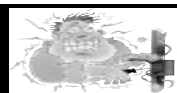
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Would you like to be able to work in your community to help improve health and wellbeing?

Are you looking for an opportunity to develop your skills and employment potential?

This may be the perfect opportunity for you to do so...

We are looking to recruit two trainee Community Wellbeing Coaches for a 12-month period from the Barry area to work in the local community to support people to live more healthy lives.

No previous experience is needed, just enthusiasm and an ability to work with people. Successful applicants will receive a wage of £10,737 plus expenses, training costs and clothing costs.

You will be employed by Newydd Housing Association, but will work with a number of community partners including Communities First in Gibbonsdown/Court and Castletland, The Vale of Glamorgan Council and Cardiff and Vale University Health Board and Public Health Wales.

For an application pack, please call Newydd Housing Association on 01446 704328 or for an informal chat about the posts please call Keiron on 01443 408080, Sharon Topazio on 01446 732406/07725 201199 or Katherine Davies on 01446 709432.

Deadlines for applications will be midday on March 18.

The project is supported by the Welsh Assembly Government through the Barry Regeneration Area Programme.



A LADY IN LLANTWIT MAJOR IS LOOKING TO EMPLOY A

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or e-mail recruitment@dewiscil.org.uk
Quote Ref: VOG009.

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Administrator



We require an experienced, highly motivated administrator to support caseworkers and project workers in our contracts unit.

Successful candidates should have considerable administration experience, excellent interpersonal and communications skills combined with Office 2007 expertise.

Hours: 30 hours pw (Monday – Friday)
Salary: £17,161 pro rata
Application packs (CVs not acceptable) are available by email from jo.bryl@valecab.org.uk

Closing date: 4:30pm Friday 25 March 2011
Interview date: Friday 1 April 2011

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Public Notices

Charity Commission – CSD-1161C

CHARITY: Sir Thomas Mansel Franklen Trust
REFERENCE: C-202260

The Charity Commission proposes to make a scheme to amend the trusts of this charity.

A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at:
Cowbridge Comprehensive School
Aberthin Road, Cowbridge, CF71 7EN
Telephone - Mrs F Gandy, PA to the Headteacher:
01446 772311

or can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to Charity Commission Direct, PO Box 1227, Liverpool, L69 3UG, quoting the above reference or visiting our website at

http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/schemes/default.aspx

Comments or representations can be made within one month from February 17th, 2011.

Notice of application for a Premises Licence under the Gambling Act 2005

Notice is hereby given that:
Coral Racing Ltd of the following address:

Glebe House, Vicarage Drive, Barking, Essex IG11 7NS
is applying for a Betting (Other) premises licence under section 159 of the Gambling Act 2005.

The application relates to the following premises: Coral, 145 Holton Road, Barry CF63 4HP

The application has been made to: Licensing Section, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU

Information about the application is available from the licensing authority, including the arrangements for viewing the details of the application.

Any of the following persons may make representations in writing to the licensing authority about the application:

A person who lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities

A person who has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities

A person who represents someone in any of the above two categories

Any representations must be made by the following date: 6th April 2011.

It is an offence under section 342 of the Gambling Act 2005 if a person, without reasonable excuse, gives to a licensing authority for a purpose connected with that Act information which is false or misleading.

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GEM Family Notices

Family Notices

EDWARDS Margaret

Peacefully on March 3 at her home in Llanblethian, Margaret Edwards B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., C.P.H. Beloved wife of the late David, dearly loved mother of Bryan and Richard, dear mother-in-law of Sarah and Jane, much loved by all her grandchildren.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Ffnonon. Funeral Monday, March 14th, service 1.45pm at Llanblethian Church followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 3.15pm.

Family flowers only may be sent to the Funeral Home, donations in lieu if desired for the purchase of equipment at the Haematology Dept., Llandough Hospital. Please make cheques payable to W James & Sons Charity Account c/o J James, 11 Ffnonon Road, Rhosce, CF62 3DZ.

WALKER

Jayne Ann

Peacefully after a long illness bravely borne on February 25, 2011 at Marie Curie Hospice, Holme Towers, Penarth, aged 49 years.

Loving wife to Stephen, much-loved mother to Rory and Elin, beloved daughter to Ann and Neil, sister to Catherine.

Will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Resting at AG Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until the funeral service in St Mary Church, Penmark on Monday March 14, 2011 at 2pm, followed by a committal service at Coychurch Crematorium at 3.45pm.

No flowers, please, but donations may be sent to Marie Curie Cancer Care, Holme Towers, Bridgemore Road, Penarth CF64 3YR.

By Jayne's request, Welsh rugby shirts to be worn at the service, please.

JONES

Guy

Suddenly on March 6th Guy, beloved husband of Jan, devoted father of Nicky and Carrie, father-in-law of Allan and Hugh, much loved Grampy of Bethan, Alex, Dafydd, Harry, Chloe, Angharad and Eluned.

Guy was formerly Chairman of the Vale of Glamorgan Community Health Council.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Ffnonon. Funeral Wednesday, March 16th, service 2.15pm at Llanmaes Church followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 3.45pm.

Family flowers only may be sent to the Funeral Home, donations in lieu if desired to Llanmaes Church c/o Mr J Robinson, The Ramblers, Llanmaes, Vale of Glamorgan CF61 1XR.

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4ft 6in round extends to 6ft oval - vgc £70.

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THOMAS

Doctor Peter

Peacefully on February 27 at The Manor House, St Hilary, in his 91st year, Dr Peter Thomas MD of Llyswnory. Beloved husband of the late Dorothy, dearly loved father of Philip, Jeremy and Anna-Peta, much loved by all his grandchildren.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Ffnonon. Private family service at Llyswnory Church, followed by public service and cremation at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend on Thursday March 17 at 11.30am.

No flowers by request, donations in lieu if desired to British Heart Foundation c/o J James, 11 Ffnonon Road, Rhosce, CF62 3DZ.

SMITH, Diane

Peacefully at home following a long illness, Diane was loved by her husband Michael and sons Jeremy and Philip. She also leaves her grandson Arran and granddaughter Angelina.

For 25 years Di was the very popular head of French at St. John's School, Porthcawl and a keen member of Cowbridge choir. Di was an enthusiastic member of Llantwit Major Twinning Association and was chairman for two years.

The funeral service will be held at 9am Saturday 12th March at St. Iltyd's Church, Llantwit Major. Cremation will follow at 10.30am at Coychurch Crematorium. Flowers to WA Brown, Funeral Directors, Llantwit Major.

JOHN NEWTON

Aged 78, from Cowbridge.

Died suddenly and tragically taken from the family fold.

Funeral on 21st March at 3.15pm
Coychurch Crematorium.

All flowers welcome - to be sent to WA Brown, Llantwit Major.

Birthdays



Happy 40th Birthday!
Julian Richard FORSYTH

12th March
Enjoy the celebrations.

We love u
oodles 'n' oodles
Diane, Ella, Jay
x x x

David Gray

Happy 30th Birthday Daddy

March 9th, 2011



Love from Lucy, Megan, Ella and all the family.

x x x

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LEAGUE TITLE WITHIN GRASP...

Clinical Sully Sports put View to the sword

**SULLY SPORTS
SEA VIEW**
**37
0**

SULLY continued their title challenge with a convincing win over local rivals Sea View.

The match started in typical derby fashion with the visitors taking the game to the South Road outfit, but Sully Sports started to settle and get their game together.

Sully pressured the visitors' line, and the home side, now showing a more streetwise approach, varied their handling, resulting in a try by Mike Mees.

As Sully got off the mark, the forwards started to dominate their opposition both at the scrum and through their well-oiled pick and drive tactics, and their persistence paid off with hooker Jason Newland going over from a short break.

The try of the match came through some deft handling, with full-back Lee Walters finishing off to touch down in the corner unchallenged and end the first half on top.

The second half started much like the first, Sea View's attacks diffused by a superb Sully Sports team defence.

Sully continued their clever approach and when an overlap was created, the South Road outfit let the ball do the work to allow full-back Lee Walters to touch down for his second try

and the bonus point was in the bag.

Sully eased off, with the combination of ill-discipline and silly mistakes; the home side were down to 13 men at one point, with flanker John Thomas sent to the bin for a punch thrown and prop Andrew Penberthy given time to cool off for dissent.

There were two more tries scored, both by winger Nathan Szuchnik, returning after a hamstring injury.

Fly-half Mike Saunders converted both tries and completed the scoring with an easy penalty to finish off the match and give Sully another great bonus point win.

This leaves Sully Sports sitting on top of the league with one game to go, and puts pressure on their rivals CIACS to match their winning streak, as Sully go to Cathays seeking another win and hopefully the league title!

Team: L Walters, D Stillman, M Phillips, P Mees (captain), W Jones, M Saunders, M Mees, J Velda, J Newland, A Penberthy, M Angove, J Di Tomaso, J Moyle, J Thomas, D Russell. Replacements from: D Stillman, I Yasin, R Franks, P Miller, M Young, S Williams, N Szuchnik, I Moore, I Paterson.

JDT



ABOVE: Action from the game.

BARRIVALE BRIDGE CLUB



ABOVE: Denis Mottram and Jane Brook, handicap winners in the recent Mixed pairs championship.

LATEST results from Barrivale:

Tuesday, February 22: 1st, Mark Roderick and Mike Close 76.39 per cent; =2nd, Jane Brook and Mick Green 60.42; =2nd, Betty Lewis and Noelle Bond 60.42.

Mark and Mike also won on handicap. New members are always welcome at Barrivale. For more information, ring 01446 733425.

Rhoose under-12s edge game

RHOOSE FC were looking to continue their good form against a strong Holton Road team.

Rhoose took the lead when Josh Morgan weaved his way through a number of challenges, before finding Cameron Leach in space who laid off Mitch McCabe, and he passed the ball into the net.

Holton came back strong and were rewarded with a well deserved goal.

Rhoose defenders Patrick O'Carroll, Ryan Hughes and Edward

Thomas worked hard to limit the number of opportunities.

Midway through the second half, Lee Bartlett found Jay Munn out on the right wing.

With three defenders around him, he managed to send over a high cross which was met on the volley by Mitch McCabe, giving the goalkeeper no chance.

Rhoose were determined to hang on to their lead with Jordan Evans, Andrew Wilson and Jordan Holt all making important challenges.

MB

The Rams take the sting out of the Scorpions

SOUTH WALES Scorpions were out-classed by a higher division team on Sunday when Championship side Dewsbury Rams knocked them out of the Carnegie Challenge Cup.

It wasn't the best of starts for new director of rugby Mark Rowley who saw his side go down 62-6 to the far more experienced Yorkshire side.

Five Scorpions debu-

**South Wales Scorpions 6
Dewsbury Rams 62**

tants, three of whom were playing their first ever professional rugby league game, were given a tough introduction after the visitors went 32-0 up at half-time.

Dewsbury always looked in control and the Scorpions were no match for their size, strength and speed.

Scorpions finally opened their account nine minutes into the sec-

THIS tense South Wales Senior Cup quarter-final between Llantwit Major and Cadoxton Barry FC eventually hinged on a brilliant diving save from Llantwit's Jack Lansdown.

The home side held on to win 2-1, but the Cadoxton faithful maintained that he should not have been on the field, after an incident 15 minutes earlier.

Lansdown found himself in a one on one as Jermaine Martyn chased down a high through ball out of defence. The goalkeeper managed to palm the ball away to safety, but appeared to be two yards out of his area.

Spectators waited for the whistle and to see if the obligatory red card would be waved, but play continued.

The early exchanges were even, though Cadoxton keeper Norris was forced into bringing off a quality save with his legs as

early as the third minute.

Gradually, Llantwit began to gain the upper hand and scored in the 15th minute when Norris was unable to hold a shot from Tom Bevan, and Stewart Lindsay was on hand to bury the rebound.

Cadoxton Barry attacked down the left and good play by Ross Weekley saw his cross reach Christian Mills, who calmly slotted the ball into the right hand corner of the net, just beyond Lansdown's outstretched fingertips.

Llantwit Major's lead had lasted just 30 seconds.

As half-time approached Llantwit's Faux went to ground claiming a penalty, but the referee awarded a free kick in the other direction.

As the second half progressed, Llantwit were still seeing more of the ball, while Cadoxton Barry were looking comfortable at the back - until disaster struck.

Once again, Cadoxton fans

were not pleased by the referee's interpretation of a coming together between Hurn and Lindsay that left Hurn flat on the grass.

Llantwit's Lindsay was able to shoot past the helpless Norris for what proved to be the winning goal.

This was followed by the 'Lansdown incident' and, although Llantwit were the dominant force for much of the match, both Cadoxton fans and team headed home with a strong sense of grievance.

However, all that is now in the past and Cadoxton Barry return to the main business of ensuring South Wales Senior League Division One safety.

It is still a big ask, but with none of the basement sides earning more than one point, it is still achievable - particularly if they can continue to display the commitment shown in recent matches.

NEIL WHITE

Dinas under-19s are wrong side of a nine-goal thriller

DINAS POWYS under-19s faced Llanelli's academy under-19s in the MacWhirter Youth Cup last Sunday and were unlucky not to get the result they hard work deserved.

Llanelli went in front after just 4 minutes, when a quick free kick caught the Dinas defence napping, and a cross from the left was headed past Steve Johnson in the Dinas goal.

Llanelli doubled their lead 5 minutes later, when the excellent Adam Orme managed to beat his marker and place the ball into the bottom corner.

Dinas were working hard to get back into the game and, after a couple of half chances, Dimitri Fallas pulled one back with a neat turn and shot from 20 yards.

Dinas got the equaliser 5 minutes later, when some good work down the left flank by Ben Ah Mun produced a cross that striker Matthew Tucker slotted past the keeper.

Dinas went in front five minutes before half time, when Tucker again

**WL Youth MacWhirter
Youth Cup Round 2
Llanelli under-19s
Dinas Powys under-19s**

**5
4**

got onto a ball in the box, just beating the keeper to poke the ball into the empty net.

Llanelli began the second half in a determined mood and dominated possession for the first 10 minutes but the Dinas back four of James Marr, Rhys Davies, James

Bloxham and Nicky Bruce were in outstanding form.

However, the Llanelli pressure eventually brought a corner that was headed home to bring the

game level.

Dinas took the lead again with 20 minutes to go when a corner was headed home by captain Rhys Davies.

Llanelli equalised when a big kick down field from the Llanelli keeper evaded both Dinas centrebacks and allowed Orme to score again.

Both sides created a couple of further half chances, but the game could not be decided in 90 minutes.

In extra time Dinas continued to try and pass the ball around, but tired legs were beginning to show as some sloppy passing began to creep into the game.

One of these misplaced passes allowed a Llanelli midfielder to slide a pass in behind the Dinas defence for Orme to complete his hat-trick and put Llanelli 5-4 in front.

This was a good performance by Dinas against the current cup holders and was a good learning curve, playing against 2 or 3 of the Llanelli players who have Welsh Premier experience.

MW

Frosty reception for the Vale under-11s

VALE Schools under-11s triumphed at a frosty Aberdare rugby club against Cynon Valley Schools under-11s by 21-12.

The Vale team came away worthy winners, scoring three converted tries under the posts each time to Cynon's two tries and one conversion.

The Vale started well, with telling tackles in midfield by Rhys Bradshaw, Bevan Howell and Harrison Ashby. From such pressure, the ball was spilled in the Vale 22 and Rhidian Williams pounced on the loose ball to feed Joseph Williams, who weaved a mazy 70-metre run to score unopposed under the posts; Bevan Howell converted.

The only other score in the first half came to the Vale by Bevan Howell, breaking the defensive line from a penalty and striding 60 metres to score and convert himself.

Rhys Durlucia went close in the second half



Rhidian Williams bursts through.

after switching to scrum-half close to the line, but was held up.

Rhidian Williams received the ball 10 metres out and ran hard at the line to score under the posts; Howell converted.

It was all Cynon Valley for the remainder of the match with Vale giving away penalties and making handling errors which the home side capitalised from, eventually scoring two close range tries and converting one to make the final score 12-21.

A pleasing result for the Vale team, showing their advantage in the

A Williams/K Jones

Pumas reach semi-finals

WITH the crazy rules that are enforced by the Cardiff Lazarou Sunday league, all games must be played on Sundays, and before May.

So, with a bad winter like we've just had, many teams must play more than two games in a day.

This was the case on Sunday for Barry Pumas, who played Division 1 high flyers Wolfs Castle in the Lazarou Challenge Cup round 3, with the winner playing in the quarter final straight after.

Pumas came out all guns blazing and scored almost immediately thanks to Scott Christophorato, and doubled their lead a few minutes later with a goal by Spencer Lamb.

The tables were turned in the second half and Wolfs Castle scored two goals to level the score and force extra time, which saw Pumas take the lead again after Callum Taylor scored from close range.

In the last minute of extra time, Mark Atherton fouled the opposing striker in the

box to give them a chance to take the game to penalties. However, Michael Lewis made a fine save to put Pumas through to the next round. Final score 3-2 (aet).

In this second game, Pumas were slow out of the blocks, and quarter-final opponents Heath Park Rangers scored the only goal of the first half.

The Barry team drew level, as an inch-perfect pass from Marcus Jones found Jamie Randall to slot past the 'keeper.

It was extra time again for Pumas and they gained the advantage when Lamb scored from the spot.

At the other end of the pitch, a goalkeeper-style save from defender Jones earned Rangers a goal from the spot and him a red card. Two of Heath Park's players were also dismissed after using foul language towards the referee.

Four minutes from time, Randall scored again with what turned out to be the winner for Barry Pumas.

The semi-finals beckoned with the final score 3-2 (aet).

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Amount of Credit	£8959.00
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Dafydd boosts mini players



RUGBY STAR Dafydd Hewitt of the Cardiff Blues was selected for the Wales Sevens team in 2007, and captained Wales under-21s at the 2006 under-21 Rugby World Championship.

On Sunday, he came to watch the boys from Barry RFC mini section train (above). The boys certainly put on a great show for him. Also in the picture are first team coaches Peter Griffiths and Dominic Rees.

Local college's famous five

BRIDGEND College level 3 extended diploma - sport (performance and excellence) students, Will - Griff John, Matthew Screech and Lewis Jones, along with former students Macauley Cook and Cory Hill, have represented Wales at this season's under 20s Six Nations

tournament.

All five students played in Wales' first match - a narrow 20-26 defeat against England at Parc y Scarlets, Llanelli.

Wales under-20s captain and second row, Macauley Cook, was awarded man of the match.

Once again, all five students were present in the team's second match, away at Scotland in Stirling.

Wales went on to record a

comfortable 33 points to 3 win, with prop Will-Griff John awarded man of the match.

Matthew Screech, Cory Hill and Will-Griff John were part of Wales' under-18s squad in last season's Four Nations tournament, and along with Lewis Jones and Macauley Cook, Cory Hill and Will John have already represented the Blues at regional level.

VALE WINNERS AT POINT-TO-POINT

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

THERE were some exciting finishes at the Brecon and Talybont Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases at Llanfrynach, where Nick Williams, assistant trainer at Evan Williams' yard, rode a brilliant race on Jeff Bird's Minsgill Mans to land the men's open race.

Nick, younger brother to National Hunt jockey Christian Williams, brought the 13-year-old bay gelding with a good run in the closing stages to win by eight lengths from Robert Rowse's French-bred *Dreux*.

Minsgill Mans was the oldest horse in the race and Mr Bird, who lives in the Vale, said of his horse: "He has won over the course three times now and has won 12 of his 23 races."

The ladies' open race was a much closer affair with last year's winner *Upton Legend*, partnered by Jane Williams, getting home by a short head from the fast finishing *Bosham Mill*, ridden by Lucy Pearce.

Minella For Food, who used to be trained by Evan Williams, took the confined race under Josh Harris, who rides out for Evan Williams. The eight-year-old bay gelding by *Saddler's Hall*, gave Josh's sister Grace her first ever winner as a trainer.

Chandlers Cross, who was caught on the line after making all the running to be beaten by a neck, was disqualified from second place as his rider Paul Tolman, on dismounting, did not go straight into the weighing-in tent.

The third horse, *Micks Prospect*, was promoted to second place and the stewards fined

Tolman £60.

Pembrokeshire's John Mathias had plenty to smile about. He had a walk-over in the members' race on *Rugged Gem* and was later successful on *Marine Hall* (restricted) and *Saint Peray* (open maiden division, one part one). Both *Marine Hall* and *Saint Peray* were sold by Mark Gichero to their respective owners.

The former, which is qualified with the Llangeinor Hunt, and owned by Paul Evans, won by eight lengths from *Copper Castle* and the latter, owned and trained by Dai Rees, made every post a winning one when coming home a distance ahead of *Peterman*.

Little Miss Monty, a 10-year-old bare mare, ridden by Emily Farr, took the second part of the second division of the open maiden when finishing a neck in front of *Cabintee*, with *Harry's Ace* a further neck away in third place. *Little Miss Monty* is owned and trained by Emily's mother, Shan, a former Welsh champion rider who had also ridden winners over the course.

Victoria Shervington's *Beyond Dreams*, ridden by Byron Moorcroft, and qualified with the Pentyrch Hunt, made all to win a division of the open maiden after being backed from 5-1 to 2-1 and *Emma Soda*, a six year-old bay mare, came from the Clifton-on-Teme to win her division under Mark Jackson.

This Sunday, the Curre and Llangibby Hunt Steeplechases are being held at Howick near Chepstow; first race 12 noon.

Meanwhile, Tom David who rides out at Tim Vaughan's Aberthryn yard, landed a juicy 14-

1 winner when scoring on five-year-old *The Hague* in the maiden hurdle at Plumpton last Monday. *The Hague* finished 15 lengths ahead of *Alystar*, ridden by the legendary A P McCoy.

Vaughan was back in the winner's enclosure 24 hours later when his strongly fancied *Sertao*, partnered by Richard Johnson, got home by the narrowest margin possible - a nose - in the National Hunt flat race.

Llancarfan's Evan Williams was also in good form at Ffos Las, landing a 17-1 double with *Timesawastin* (evens) and *Fahrissee* (8-1). Both were ridden by stable jockey Paul Moloney.

The former won by six lengths from *Tenby Jewel* and the latter, who was the outsider of four, had three-and-a-half lengths to spare over the odds-on favourite *Ruthenoise*.

WELCOME WINNER Evergreen Bryn Palling, who trains at Tredodridge, Pendoylan, had a welcome winner when his four-year-old chestnut, *Mr Maximus*, landed the atpokerclub.com handicap at Wolverhampton last Friday.

Owned by Mr Nigel Thomas, and ridden by R Kingscote, *Mr Maximus* won by three parts of a length from *Idol Deputy* at odds of 14-1.

At Kempton on Saturday, the Evan Williams-trained *Trooper Clarence*, a seven-year-old bay gelding, was an easy winner of the BetFred Casino Novices Handicap Chase. Confidently ridden by stable jockey Paul Moloney, *Trooper Clarence* won by 13 lengths from *Playing With Fire*. The winner and runner-up were the 11-4 joint favourites.

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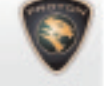
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Success for Barry's 'Friends and family'

IT was a real family affair as two teams from Barry reached the finals of a skittles tournament in North Devon.

'Friends and Family' beat off the challenge of 15 other teams from Wales and the West Country to come out on top in the Shoot Out Club competition in Bideford, and Leanne Williams recorded the top score of the entire weekend with an impressive total of 60 to help the all-women's

Family Affair B team finish third overall.

It could have been an even bigger Barry bonanza - the Family Affair A team missed out on a place in the final by a single pin.

For the Friends and Family team, victory was particularly sweet. They've been taking part in shoot out skittles events since they started 17 years ago and although they've reached the finals before, this was the first time they'd been crowned champions. They beat Bristol team

The Mutineers 388-378 to lift the trophy, quite a performance considering they don't all play regularly.

"We had a great weekend and winning the tournament was a bonus," said team organiser Lynn Hill.

Friends and Family, who base themselves at the Castle Hotel in Barry, used to compete as a ladies-only team but they've gradually let the men in on the act and their name certainly suits them.

In the team with Lynn is husband



Stephen, brother-in-law Martyn Hill, sister-in-law Sandra Hale and friend Ray Peterson, together with mother and daughter Beverley and Jennifer Thurston, husband and wife Veronica and Trevor Martin and their daughters Becky and Vicky.

The Family Affair B team beat The Mendippers from Somerset to clinch third place. They come together as a touring team for Shoot Out Club events while Family Affair A play more regularly at Barry Rugby Club in the Barry and District League.

The two teams are made up largely of mothers and daughters with the more mature players making up the A team and their organiser, Sue Vincent said: "Youth won out over

experience...this time!" team featured Cath Edwards, Leanne Williams, Jenny Williams, Kelly Keating, Carlie Grubb, Judith Enticott, Maria Edwards, Sarah Adams, Karen Adams and Jenny Starke.

Llantwit under-13s lose out to Tondur at the Rec

ON a cold and windy morning, Llantwit Major under-13s entertained Tondur for the second time this season at the Rec.

The boys started confidently and a score from Llantwit was inevitable and deservedly came through Richard Danderfield, following some excellent interpassing between backs and forwards; Iestyn Jones neatly converted.

The game ebbed back and forth, with both sides wanting to attack and both defended well. The score remained 7-0 in Llantwit's favour at half time.

The second half continued as the first, but Tondur came out of the blocks a little more eager in the contact area. Pressure finally turned into points

with a well deserved converted try.

As the game wore on, Llantwit's strong defence in the first half began to show cracks as the Tondur forwards began to take the upper hand.

Quick ball from the ruck area saw Tondur increase their lead with two further converted tries.

Llantwit tried in vain to take the game to their opposition and showed some neat touches with good support play, but poor decision making at crucial times made Llantwit suffer with a late unconverted try to make the final score 26-7 to the visitors.

The boys can take a lot from the game as the run in to the end of the season starts to gather pace.

Well done boys, you did yourselves proud once again.

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PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£79.22	£152	£291
PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£87.22	£168	£345

HIGH PERFORMANCE TYRES

Examples:	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£57.22	£107	£203
PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£62.22	£132	£286
PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£68.22	£138	£245
PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£78.22	£148	£281

ULTRA HIGH PERFORMANCE TYRES

Examples:	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£109.22	£209	£398
PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£84.22	£158	£281
PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£112.22	£214	£407
PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£143.22	£276	£531

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Examples:	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
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PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£39.22	£77	£148
PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£50.22	£97	£184
PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£62.22	£121	£233

HIGH PERFORMANCE TYRES

Examples:	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£50.22	£97	£184
PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£54.22	£104	£199
PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£58.22	£111	£214
PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£53.22	£102	£194

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Examples:	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
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PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£66.22	£128	£245

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Examples:	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
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PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£36.22	£66	£123
PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£38.22	£70	£133

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Examples:	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
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PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£59.22	£112	£214

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Examples:	Buy 1	Buy 2	Buy 4
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PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£56.22	£107	£203
PS 132/133 Bridgestone R250	£61.22	£112	£214
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Auris TR 1.33 VVT-i Official Fuel Consumption Figures in mpg (l/100km): Urban 39.2 (7.2), Extra Urban 55.4 (5.1), Combined 47.9 (5.9). CO₂ Emissions 136g/km.

DINAS DENIED WIN BY LAST-GASP GOAL

DINAS gave a start to new signing **Barrie Gunstone** and he soon made his presence felt.

In the fifth minute Gunstone chested down a pass into the path of fellow striker Carl Huntley, whose first time shot was just wide.

Just a minute later a superb cross from the right from Jason Davies found the head of Gunstone at the far post, and he made no mistake, giving the Croesy keeper no chance with a well placed header to open the Dinas account.

With 10 minutes of the half remaining, Ollie Dalton went on a mazy run but his shot was just wide and the half ended fairly evenly with Dinas just about deserving their lead.

Dinas started the second half on the front foot with Gunstone, Hayward and Davies combining well but Dalton's header from Davies' cross was just over.

The visitors began to show their mettle and began to get on top, with substitute Dominic Broad hitting a powerful shot just over the bar.

Dinas manager Marc Cahill then rang the changes, bringing on the pacy Gareth Tedstone for Huntley and he soon began to cause the visitors' defence some prob-

DINAS POWYS CROESYCEILIOG

22

lems, culminating in a penalty after he was pushed down from behind.

Gunstone took the spot kick but Chorley guessed the right way, pushing the ball away to safety.

Croesy were getting on top at this stage and were not to be denied and from a corner, Jody Jenkins got his head to the ball first in a crowded six yard box to head home for the equaliser.

Dinas were soon in

front again, when from an Ollie Dalton corner, Gunstone headed goal-

ward and the visitors' central defender, Daniel Clouth could only head the ball into the roof of the net for an own goal.

Dinas brought on Liam Jones and Steve Provis for Davies and Morgan and it looked as if they would hang on to the points, despite being under some pressure in the last 10 minutes.

However, deep into injury time, Richard

Perry latched onto a cross from the left, his shot taking a deflection off a Dinas defender and into the net for a last gasp equaliser which, on reflection, was a fair result.

This Saturday, AFC Porth are the visitors to the Murch with a 2.30pm kick off.

Squad: Dave Burnett, Rhodri Foote, Danny Street, Mike Hayward (c), Dave Penkett, Jon Carpenter, Ricki Morgan, Jason Davies, Barrie Gunstone, Carl Huntley, Ollie Dalton, Will Penkett, Steve Provis, Liam Lones, Gareth Tedstone. PK

Golf trophies are fought for at St Andrews Major

SUNDAY, March 6, saw the finals of the winter league and Wayne Pritchard memorial shield at St Andrews Major Golf Club.

After several months of braving the cold, snow and rain, the preliminary rounds of the winter league produced eight group winners which went forward to the winter league finals, and the remainder went into the Wayne Pritchard memorial shield.

The winter league finals were competitively fought by all eight pairs taking part before Craig Johansen and Phil Westcott secured top spot with a game in hand.

Second place was fought out on the last day between no less than six pairs, before a brilliant comeback from being

four down clinched the runner up position for Wayne Jordan and Harry Lewis.

The Wayne Pritchard memorial trophy was played on a knockout basis with Rob Picton and Mark Cleaver powering their way to Sunday's final against an in-form Brian Haines and James McLaren.

Despite a gallant effort by Brian and James, Picton and Cleaver proved to be too good on the day and clinched the title six and four.

Both trophies were presented by club captain, John Bryan, in front of a packed clubhouse.

Further details of players and final positions can be viewed on the members' website www.samgolfclub.com. JL

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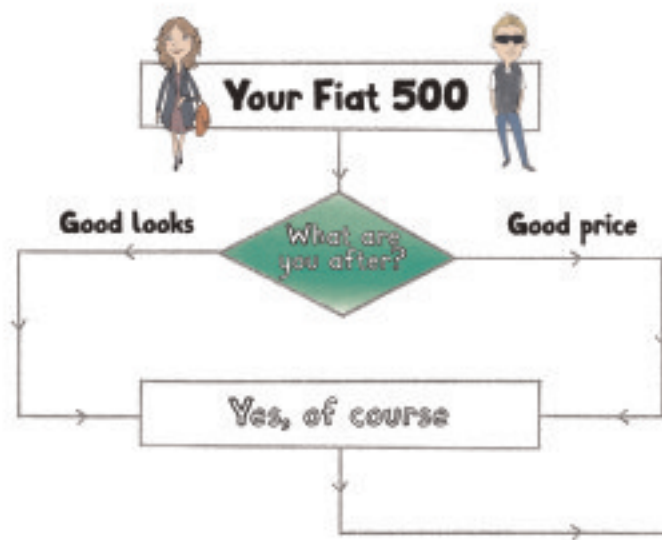
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Nigel is remembered at local charity match



LEFT: Action from the Nigel Westall memorial game, which was won by Sully Sports.

SATURDAY, February 26 was the sixth year of the Nigel Westall memorial charity rugby game, this year between Sully Sports RFC and Sully RFC.

Sully Sports wore their new kit, sponsored for the occasion by Buildex Construction.

Both teams played to a high standard with Sully Sports retaining the trophy for the fifth year running, winning 42-21.

During half time, Sully Sports under-8s played a short game of tag rugby.

The clubs wish to thank Dave Brown of Buildex Construction for sponsoring the kit; Owen of happybroidery.com; Reservoir Cats for the entertainment; CASS Scaffolding for sponsoring the match ball, and all the supporters on the day.

JDT

VALEWAYS WALKS

ON Monday, March 14 at 1.30pm, Llantwit Major to the sea - meet at the Llantwit Major bus/rail station car park.

On Wednesday, March 16, 10.30am-1pm, three from six villages extended walk - Sycamore Tree Inn, Colwinston (optional lunch).

Depleted Llantwit under-8s win well away against CRICC

A DEPLETED Llantwit under-8s rugby team travelled to Cardiff High School Old Boys ground to take on CRICC.

With a squad of only six verses CRICC'S 14, it was decided to play a game of four-a-side to allow all of CRICC'S players to have a game.

The game started with good interaction from the CRICC players, which resulted in an early try. Llantwit didn't seem to wake up until a further brace of tries were scored against them.

Jacob Hunt started off the flood of tries that was to follow with a lovely solo effort.

Tries from both teams were a regular occurrence and at the half way mark, CRICC substituted the whole team - but these fresh players didn't deter the Llantwit squad.

Kieran Hunt took the ball from the restart tap and ran through the bewildered CRICC'S defence, for the first of his two tries.

Kofi Jones went over for three, Bradley Claxton one and a further five from Jacob Hunt sealed a well deserved win for the travelling Llantwit squad.

The win was only achievable by a very game organised and disciplined

team with great tagging coming from the duo of Theo Davies and Ben Pernas.

After 40 minutes of rugby, the final score was CRICC 9, Llantwit Major 12

Well done lads; man of the match was awarded to the whole team for their great effort.

MD
Llantwit under-7s v Cricc under-7s

Game 1
THE under-7s travelled to Cardiff to play CRICC at Cardiff High School old boys ground.

With seven players on each side, both teams agreed to play two games of five-a-side with rolling subs.

Llantwit captain Luke Pownall won the toss and Toby Thorne went over for the first try.

CRICC levelled the scores, but next up to score for Llantwit was Kian Morgan Brew with a good solo effort.

Toby scored again and next on the score sheet was Sam Davis, who scored two tries.

CRICC came back with four tries of their own, but Llantwit weren't finished with Kian Morgan Brew scoring his second of the match.

With the last play of the game, Cricc scored a try to level the first game at six-all.

Game 2
LLANTWIT started this game with good runs from Dylan Morgan and Lewis Morgan breaking up the defence to release Kian Morgan Brew for the first try.

three tries in a row, making it a total of five for him on the day.

CRICC again scored, but Dylan Thomas and Kian Morgan Brew scored.

CRICC didn't give up and scored a try, but the final word went to Luke Pownall, who scored the last try of the game.

A great effort from the boys winning 9-4.

PT

LLANTWIT MAJOR JUNIOR FOOTBALL ROUND-UP

Richard scores four in under-13 'goal romp'

by GWYN JOHN

THE under-16 team continued their good form with a 3-0 win in their local derby against Cowbridge at Windmill Lane.

It was a good day for football and Rory Ellis (2) and Jordan Owen took full advantage of the conditions to score Llantwit's goals with another good display.

The under-13 side romped to an easy victory at Sully Sports B.

The goalscorers were Richard Stephens (4),

Gabriel Oram (3), Iwan Baker (2), Dylan Lewis (2), Richard Dangerfield, Will Perkins, Ryan Clarke, Scott McMillan and Rhys Hunter.

Under-15 B goalie Dean Garrison had an excellent match against Holton Road. Despite losing 3-0, the Llantwit lads put up a good display against a strong Holton Road team.

All the other teams were not fixtured and are looking forward to playing this week.

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Celtic cousins have a point to prove

THE story begins 129 years ago at Lansdowne Road, Dublin, on January 28, 1882 – the day Wales and Ireland first clashed on the international rugby field (the Welsh tourists won that opener by two goals, the scoring method at the time).

'Clashed' is no understatement – for the ensuing 115 encounters have produced some notable, at times notorious moments, as passions boiled over in the heat of combat!

However, fierce rivalry between these close Celtic cousins should never be confused with enmity, as evidenced by many legendary tales of off-field camaraderie, not only between players, but the supporters of both camps over the years.

Even so, time after time Irish teams seemed to have reserved their best efforts to thwart Welsh hopes of a Triple Crown or Grand Slam at the final hurdle.

Wales almost returned the 'compliment' in 2009, when a typically seesaw match at the Millennium Stadium saw Stephen Jones' last-

BACK PAGE COMMENT by Don John

gasp penalty fall agonisingly short and Ireland won 17-15, to claim their first Grand Slam for 61 years!

There was a nice irony in this, for in 2005 it was Wales that had overcome Ireland 32-20 in Cardiff to complete their first Grand Slam since 1978.

By and large, narrow margins have been a feature of matches between the two nations – notable exceptions being 2002, when Ireland won 54-10, and 1976, when Wales won 34-9.

However, the pendulum swung sharply towards the men in green during the years that followed Wales' golden era.

The measure of the challenge facing the Welsh team when they meet Ireland again at the Millennium Stadium on Saturday evening, is that in the last 10 years alone, the latter have won nine and Wales three of the 12 games played. Even so, the record books also reveal encouraging statistics, for the overall table reads: Wales 62 wins, Ireland 47, with six

matches drawn.

Even more remarkably, Wales remain ahead on points – 1,329 to Ireland's 1,216, so all is far from lost!

Moreover, Warren Gatland's team know that Ireland's Six Nations campaign has so far failed to measure up to expectations, while Wales, too, have yet to fire on all cylinders; so the stage is set for yet another intensely close-fought encounter, with both teams having much to prove, while at the same time still nursing title hopes.

Former England captain Will Carling's comments that Gatland is enforcing a conservative style of play totally alien to the Welsh team and that James Hook should be "set free" at outside half, gave the team announcement on Tuesday an added piquancy.

In the event, the coach bowed to the media clamour for veteran Stephen Jones to make way for his younger rival, rather than stick with controlling midfield general Jones against

an Ireland team expected to be masterminded by Irish equivalent, Ronan O'Gara?

Hook got the nod, presumably because he offers something different to Jones, so it would seem odd indeed if in fact he is instructed to play in a similar 'conservative' style!

In that sense, Carling had a point.

Gatland did resist bringing back fit again Ospreys prop Adam Jones for the expected fireworks against an Irish eight desperate to silence their own critics. The only other changes saw the expected return of Jonathan Davies and Leigh Halfpenny to the backline.

It promises to be yet another Celtic battle royal!

WALES TEAM TO FACE IRELAND:

Lee Byrne (Ospreys); Leigh Halfpenny (Blues), Jamie Roberts (Blues), Jonathan Davies (Scarlets) Shane Williams (Ospreys); James Hook (Ospreys), Mike Phillips (Ospreys); Paul James (Ospreys), Matthew Rees (Scarlets, capt), Craig Mitchell (Ospreys), Bradley Davies (Blues), Alun Wyn Jones (Ospreys) Dan Lydiate (Dragons), Sam Warburton (Blues), R Jones (Ospreys).

Barry Rugby Club just edged out by Tonyrefail

BEFORE the away fixture last Saturday, Tonyrefail were three places below Barry but with a healthy five games in hand.

It was a bitterly cold day with Barry having the advantage of both a moderate wind and the slope for the first session. Tonyrefail started the stronger of the teams and were unfortunate to see an attempted penalty

kick bounce harmlessly from an upright.

Barry then stirred themselves into action, creating a three-quarter movement which put Provis clear on the left wing.

Despite being far from a position to judge, the referee ruled that the final pass was forward. Even the non-partisan home coaching staff thought the decision flawed!

Tonyrefail were getting the upper hand in the set scrummages, but Barry were their usual dominant best at ruck and maul.

Some good forward play headed by Jones and George led to Tonyrefail conceding a penalty, which was coolly converted from distance by Cummings.

A late tackle by the over-zealous home left wing resulted in a yellow card, providing a chance for the captain to extend the visitors' lead to six points.

Although still struggling to secure scrum ball, Barry always looked threatening by controlling the loose play.

After forty minutes this area of dominance

led to a further penalty, which was successfully converted.

Well into first half injury time the visiting backs fell offside on their twenty-two, giving the home side an easy penalty goal for a 3-9 score at the break.

The second period started with very scrappy passages of play, which provided nothing to warm up the phalanx of frozen spectators.

Tonyrefail cut the deficit with a further penalty and the kick was made considerably more straightforward by the referee marching the Barry offenders back.

This behaviour caused them to lose ground on more than one occasion and should provide a weakness to be worked upon by both players and coaches.

Tonyrefail swept into the lead with a well constructed, but unconverted, try by their back division.

Tonyrefail now had their tails up but neither side had the wherewithal to dominate proceedings even for a short period of time.

Barry continued to experience problems at

Tonyrefail RFC Barry RFC

18
14

the set scrums of which there were many, while the home team could not shake off the shackles of the visiting loose forwards, for whom Hunt and Gill were outstanding.

The stalemate was eventually broken when the home side forced a five-metre scrum. This was lost with Barry conceding a simple short-range try, which was converted with a fine touch-line kick.

With injuries mounting among front-row specialists, the visitors had no option other than to elect for uncontested scrummages for the closing minutes of the match.

As if out of the blue, Barry scored a welcome last ditch try, when the alert Williams intercepted an errant pass and set off for the opposition line fully 80 metres away.

He held off some determined would-be covering tacklers to make the line.

The easy kick was missed and it is a salutary fact that if it had been converted, along with a similar late penalty goal, Barry could have left with a victory.

However, they would probably agree that final result was a fair reflection of the game.

Team: Ryan, Provis, Walsh, Busittill, Hardy, Cummings, Lee, Morgan, O'Sullivan, Hunt, Jones, King, Hadfield, George, Gill. **Subs:** Brown, Campbell, Evans, Williams.

The next game for Barry RFC will be against St Josephs at Blackweir on March 19.

Also, the Barry RFC clubhouse is available for all manner of functions; availability may be checked and bookings made with Carol at the club on 01446 734806.

Lastly, Barry RFC's Ken Chow visits Tanzania on a regular basis and gives his expertise free to those in need of dental treatment.

To raise funds for his charity, BRIDGE2AID, a quiz night will be held at the Wyndham Conservative Club on Saturday, March 26; please support his worthy efforts.

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